ELES (R)

OIC chief cool to Mideast linkage

JEDDAH (AP) - Efforts to solve the Palestinian problem could follow an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait, the head of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) said Saturday. But Hamid Al Gabid, who is secretarygeneral of the 45-nation body, hinted in a letter to His Majesty King Hussein that he rejects a linkage between the two issues. "The extremely serious tension and the massive arrival of foreign forces in the Gulf region should be linked to the unacceptable decision of the Iraqi authorities to purely and simply annex the state of Kuwait." Gabid wrote. "We shall put in efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian tragedy once the current Gulf crisis is over," he wrote. Gabid, a former prime minister of Niger, described Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as "unjustified, tragic and unfortunate." The contents of the King's letter were not revealed.



Iran has to import refined oil

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran still needs to import refined oil for domestic demand, although its refineries are producing at more than 20 per cent their design capacities, Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said Saturday. Agazadeh, in an interview with Tehran Radio, said Iran's seven refineries were producing 920,000 barrels of oil products per day. That was 200,000 barrels above their normal capacity. He said the refineries were producing enough petrol, but that 234,000 barrels of kerosene and diesel had to be imported daily from the Netherlands and other European countries. Agazadeh said Iran had problems transporting its oil, and that 2,000 tankers have been bought to relieve those problems. Another 1,400 tankers were hired from neighbouring Turkey, he said. The new tanker would start operating in the next Iranian year, beginning on March 22. Another 500 tankers will be manufactured domestically, raising the number of Iranian tankers in service to 10,000, Agazadeh said.

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AMMAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1990, JUMA'DAH AL-ULA 21, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

couple were prayda

riding to p. BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq accused Pravda Saturday of spreading lies ecified suppose about it and said the Soviet Comd. There are munist Party newspaper had fallivorce suit is the len under U.S. influence. "Amerthe 25-year-old ican fingers have reached... some
ed former of its (Pravda's) pens and are) Starred bis selecting fabricated news aimed n Diffrent at distorting and damaging most popular Soviet-Iraqi relations," the Iraqi in America News Agency (INA) quoted In-978 to 1986 | formation Minister Latif Nassif nonths in jalle led on Pravda to "preserve the g found log he credibility of the Soviet media."

a drug dealer he without referring to any specific rack is Without referring to any specific he said the spent time article in Pravda, he said the the danger newspaper was publishing stories y signed a cont lraq's internal affairs.

former contract in Doha 'as released, meet in Doha

hidney all DOHA (AP) — The Gulf crisis said Publical took top billing as the foreign ministers of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) gathered Saturday. The officials are to draw up an agenda for the summit of GCC heads of state in Doha, scheduled for Dec. 22, but an informed source said they) accused would also hold talks on the crisis. The source said the ministers would discuss results of their contacts with Arab and other countries on ways to achieve an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait. No further details were available on (R) - E the likely contents of the discusduo Milli Vat sions, which were to take place i \$120-million mostly behind closed doors.

Somali peace talks postponed

Blood, Ser CAIRO (R) — Peace talks beowns the new tween the Somali government and five rebel groups scheduled that the to have started in Cairo Tuesday ed by Maye have been postponed indefiniteob Pilansalit ly, Egypt said on Saturday. Leaders of the rebel groups said in It's True Rome Friday they would boycott t month was the talks because of a crackdown rammy Ave by their government's military. losed they is "In light of contacts with Somali g on ther its parties in which they expressed to sing " their desire for a postponement. song cited it was agreed with Italy they Or Noting should be postponed," Minister ne identicant of State for Foreign Affairs Bout-Vheel but to ros Ghali told reporters after. on the Mili meeting Somalia's ambassador to aced by Fred Egypt. Egypt and Italy, the forter negotiate mer colonial power, were due to ton-Thoma': have mediated in the talks aimed arian and H at ending 12 years of civil war in

quired right. Aga Khan to quit as Afghan author. Less coordinator

ict with fare United NATIONS (R) -1-Thomas' & Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan will er cent was step down at the end of the month as coordinator for U.N. in actual at humanitarian and economic aid programmes to Afghanistan, a U.N. spokesman said. He was appointed in May 1988 after the signing of the Geneva accords that led to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Sadruddin, 57, launched a major programme of emergency relief and rehabilitation called "Operation Salam" for which more than CISCO (R) - \$1 billion in cash and kind have so records of far been pledged.

100,000 demonstrate determination has sink in Khartoum

KHARTOUM (R) — About 100,000 people demonstrated in Khartoum Saturday in support of the Palestinian uprising. Palestiman leader Yasser Arafat and Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir greeted students shouting , anti-American slogans and carrying banners calling for a holy war to liberate Jerusalem. Govemment offices gave employees the day off to mark the third anniversary Sunday of the start of the uprising.

Tunisla had plan to take 15 heads of state to Iraq

then looked TUNIS (R) — Tunisian President then love Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali had the state to an and non-aligned heads of with the state to go to Baghdad with him They the Conte to peaceful solution to They the Gulf crisis, official sources at which had said Saturday. Ben Ali had made ics in short tries over the some of the counon's shadow has suspended the project be best cause of the latest developments in has between Baghdad and Washing-

Occupied lands at a standstill

Palestinians stage massive strike to mark anniversary of intifada

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM ing and the Hamas movement. mir's residence to mark the upris-(Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied territories staged a general strike Saturday on the occasion of the third anniversary cles, apart from army cars, were revolt. of their intifada and to commemorate the Oct. 8 massacre of over 20 Palestinians in Arab Jeru-

West Bank, including such principal cities as Nablus and Hebron, and most of the Gaza Strip remained under army-imposed

curfews. The curfews were ordered Friday to prevent possible marches and violence. On Saturday, Palestinians mark two months since the Oct. 8 killings and Sunday is the third anniversary of their uprising.

came to a standstill Saturday at

Shops were shut and no vehi- mentioning violent events of the seen on the West Bank roads. In

Increased police and paramilitthe Arab Jerusalem. Arab pas-

ched, witnesses said. Before dawn Saturday, uniden-Arabs, fired several shots at a Life in the occupied territories police said.

Also Saturday, hundreds of the onset of the two-day general Israelis from the left-wing Peace strike, called by the unified Now movement gathered in front national leadership of the upris- of Prime Minister Yitzhak Sha-

There were no reports of vio- ing anniversary. They carried burning torches and placards

In large newspaper ads pub-Ramallah, a town declared a lished Friday, the movement de-"closed military area" by the manded a "political separation army, the only sign of life were from the (occupied) territories' Large sectors of the occupied children playing soccer in the and said time has come to "put an end to the circle of bloodshed."

In the West Bank, leaflets disary border police forces patrolled tributed by two Palestinian groups called for an escalation of sersby were stopped and sear- the intifada as it enters its fourth

Police expelled about 10 Jews tified assailants, presumably of the anti-Arab Kach movement from Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharborder police patrol in the Arab if, the site of the Oct. 8 massacre, Jerusalem neighbourhood of after they began shouting insult Shuafat. There were no injuries, at passing Palestinians. The complex house Al Agsa Mosque, Islam's third boliest shrine.

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq proposes Dec. 17 and Jan. 12 for talks with U.S.

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq and manner in which both sides table emirate it invaded on Aug. 2. the United States have run into disagreement over proposed dates for talks involving Foreign Minister Tareg Aziz in Washing-James Baker in Baghdad, the Saturday.

Iraq formally proposed Dec. 17 as the date for Aziz to go to Washington and Jan. 12 for Baker's talks with Saddam Hussein, INA said.

The Foreign Ministry said it had informed the American charge d'affaires in Baghdad of its proposal.

"The INA learned that the American side proposed other dates for the two meetings that were found not suitable for the Iraqi side," the agency said.

It said also that the Foreign Ministry had "informed the American side that Iraq affirms its position that talks in Washington and Baghdad should be based on real desire for dialogue and exchange of opinion in a comprehensive, serious and thorough

Amnesty

protests

practices

ROME (AP) — The Italian

branch of Annesty International

accused Israel Saturday of violat-

ing international law by torturing

Palestinians and detaining them

for long periods without charge.

anniversary of the Palestinian up-

rising, also charged that Israeli

anthorities allowed an excessive

use of firearms against Palesti-

The human rights group said

tension in the occupied territories

had grown worse in recent

months. It attributed the change

to the formation of a right-wing

Israeli government, an increase in

killings by Palestinians of sus-

pected Israeli collaborators and

widespread support among

Palestinians for Iraq.

The report, marking the third

Israeli

and Saddam through Baker that

Irag must leave Kuwait without

A U.S. State Department their considerations and issues based on their positions and that spokeswoman said Friday that concern must be centred on seek- Washington would not agree to ing understanding as an alterna- set up the Bush-Aziz talks until ton and U.S. Secretary of State tive for the language of threat." Baghdad agreed on a date for the It said Iraq had made it clear Saddam-Baker meeting.

Iraqi News Agency (INA) said that it believes an overall Aziz said Friday that he needed approach to Middle East prob- no instruction from Bush on the lems was needed, particularly the facts of the Gulf crisis. Arab-Israeli conflict. Aziz instead suggested that

INA said Iraq's proposal on Bush use their White House Ang. 12, linking the Gulf crisis meeting to open a peace diawith all Middle East issues, "is logue. the correct start to solve all the

In a television interview, Aziz region's problems and first and said Bush was mistaken in his foremost the Palestinian gues- view that President Saddam is an isolated dictator unaware of the President George Bush has in- danger he faces from a vast multinational force deployed in the sisted that there be no linkage and has said he would tell Aziz

"He (Bush) is absolutely wrong," Aziz told ABC Televi-

Aziz said Bush thus would be INA said the Iraqi ministry added that Iraq would stick to wasting time if he devotes the "Iraq's national rights, including projected meeting to stressing the its rights in the governorate of U.S. threat to drive Iraqi forces

out of Kuwait if they do not Iraq renamed Kuwait its 19th withdraw by a U.N. deadline of province after it annexed the Jan. 15. Arab oil ministers reject

rejected a bid by Kuwait to censure Iraq Saturday after Egypt appealed to them to concentrate on Arab economic unity, delegates said.

They said ministers and officials at the annual meeting of the 10-member Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) refused to discuss the Gulf crisis despite repeated pleas by Knwaiti Oil Minister Rashid Salem Al Ameeri.

"Ameen spoke three times during the closed session and his words were emotional and highly charged," one delegate told Reuters after the one-day meeting. The sources said the ministers

also refused to discuss a request by Ameeri that OAPEC demand compensation from Iraq for moving much of the organisation's equipment to Baghdad from its former headquarters in Kuwait. The leader of the Iraqi delegation, Cairo Ambassador Nabil Nejim Al Takriti, objected when

Kandeel of Egypt earlier urged

the ministers to avoid politics and

of the Arab Nation," he said.

"The first mistake we should

The report said that at least 660 Palestinians had been killed in the conference decided to temporarily move its headquarters to three years by Israelis using firearms. Nearly half the victims Cairo, the delegates said. (see were under 19, the Italian group OAPEC President Abdul Hadi

"Amnesty International feels particularly concerned about official directives on the use of firearms that seem to give consent, without any justification, to the killing of people not necessarily involved in activities that threaten the lives of other people," the report by the Italian group said.

(Continued on page 4)

Kuwaiti bid to assail Iraq CAIRO (R) — Arab oil ministers affect our economic interests. "The Arabs have one fate and will return to each other no matter how far apart they are," he

Most OAPEC members are strongly critical of Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait but the dele-

> steer clear of the explosive issue at Kandeel's request. "They agreed to avoid politics even before the conference started," one source said.

gates said the ministers agreed to

The Gulf crisis has led to one of the most serious splits in the Arab World with Egypt rallying an anti-Baghdad Arab coalition.

Kandeel said oil represented the most important asset of the Arab Nation, describing OAPEC as "the lighthouse of the Arab petroleum industry."

"If this light is put out our ships will lose their way in the stormy seas of politics."

OAPEC, based in Kuwait since its establishent in 1968, has been virtually paralysed by the inva-OAPEC groups seven OPEC

members — Saudi Arabia, Iraq. Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Libya and Algeria - with small producers Syria, Egypt and Bahrain. Unlike OPEC, the Arab group

focus on how to promote econo-4. mic integration. The group's does not discuss prices and promembers own about two-thirds of duction policies but its meetings the world's proven oil reserves. have often provided an opportun-"Our thoughts are over- ity for major oil producers to whelmed by anxiety... over the coordinate policies ahead of dangers that threaten the future OPEC conferences.

The 13-member OPEC is scheduled to start its biannual meetavoid is to let political differences ing in Vienna on Wednesday.



Jordanian and Palestinian artists after opening week-long cultural photo)

Jordan marks uprising anniversary with week-long cultural activities

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty poets and writers. King Hussein Saturday attended the opening of cultural activities Karaki addressed the opening organised by the Ministry of Cuiture in cooperation with the Department of Culture of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in commemoration of the third anniversary of the intifada.

The week-long events include by Jordanian and Palestinian poets, seminars and speeches as sion." well as plays depicting the meaning of the uprising against the Israeli occupation and reflecting the unity between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and their solidarity in the face of Israel and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian struggle for liberating the occupied territories. The events will end with the presentation of medals to distinguished intellectuals,

Minister of Culture Khaled Al session held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), paying tribute to the Palestinian people involved in the uprising. The intifada, he said, "is one bright image of the iong-standing struggle of the Arab world, and it is an honouractivities such as poetry readings able struggle in the face of colonial and racist powers and repres-

> the Palestinian martyrs and these wounded in the fight for freedom and those carrying stones and daggers to fight for their liberation," the minister said.

mind the Arabs of their ancestors, those vanguards who led the this joint struggle," he said. Islamic conquest and helped to propagate Islam worldwide," he opening session with King Hus-

Karaki said the joint struggle Al Lawzi, Royal Court Chiefagainst Zionists and the other Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the invaders waged by the Jordanian King's political advisor Adnan and Palestinian peoples since the Abu Odeh and Chief Chamber-1920s have set the stage for their lain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid as well descendants "who are today un- as Cabinet members, Parliament ited in their will and determina- deputies and Palestine National tion to pursue the fight for freedom and unity."

Another speaker was Abdullah

Al Hourani, head of the PLO's

"Today we salute the intifada, appreciation of those who exerted efforts to organise the cultural events in commemoration of the intifada. "The staunch support and soli-

darity displayed by the Jordanian "The Palestinian people re- people towards their Palestinian borthers is one form of expressing

Hussein opened an exhibition of Cultural Department, who voiced Palestinian embroideries displaying samples of work done by residents of Palestinian villages and refugee camps. King Hussein also opened a

sein were Senate Speaker Ahmad

Council members in Amman in

Following the opening, King

addition to a large gathering.

plastic art exhibition displaying works by Jordanian and Palesti-Among those attending the

nian artists depicting the joint struggle and the sufferings of the Palestinian people under Israeli

meets Gandhi

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

envoy

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and an envoy of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Saturday discussed the Gulf crisis and efforts to arrive at a peaceful negotiated solution to the problem.

Romesh Bhandari, head of the foreign affairs department of Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, told the Jordan Times the discussions "focused on the Gulf crisis and the latest developments in the region."

He declined to elaborate. saying "It is too early to make any definite comment." But it is believed that the mission of Bhandari, who has served as the senior-most official in the Indian Foreign Minstry in the Gandhi government, is related to the ongoing mission undertaken by former Nicaraguan

President Daniel Ortega. The King's meeting with the veteran Indian diplomat was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the King's senior aides as well as the Indian ambassador in Jordan, Gajendra Singh.

Bhandari is heading for Baghdad for talks with Iraqi leaders, including President Saddam Hussein, as part of behind-the-scene Third World diplomacy in endeavours to avert a war in the region and seek a negotiated settlement to the Gulf crisis.

Analysts point out that the efforts have continued despite international scepticism over their chances of success in the face of the anti-Iraq coalition effectively controlled by the United States. Very little detail of the endeavours has been revealed so far.

From the very outset of the crisis, triggered by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2, India has been advocating an Arab solution to the problem. Leading Indian politicians and commentators argue that the Third World, while remaining firm against the acquisition of

(Continued on page 4)

Foreigners begin leaving Iraq; Bush says peace is not closer

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Foreways flights. Others formerly Sunday morning to pick up Washington next week. held at military targets began to stranded Americans. He said the pour into Baghdad.

President Saddam Hussein said on Thursday that all foreigners should be released, and the Iraqi Frankfurt later Sunday. parliament approved the plan on Friday. However, it was not im- also had chartered a Boeing 707 mediately clear how fast the de- to fly about 50 Italians to Rome partures could be arranged for all Sunday. The Foreign Ministry in the foreigners.

whose release was approved prior duled to leave Baghdad at 0900 to Thursday arrived in Amman GMT. Saturday aboard an Iraqi Airways ietliner. Iraqi authorities also took 17 Americans to the airport guests departing the country." in Baghdad for a flight to Jordan later Saturday chartered by for- on using Iraqi planes for the mer U.S. Treasury Secretary airlift to break an economic John Connally.

Nureddin Al Safi, the head of Nations. Iragi Airways, said the airline out of Iraq within three days if guests who are being released... He said no foreign carriers will be said. allowed to fly the foreigners out

dication when other foreigners said. would be issued exit visas, compulsory under Iraqi law. Govern- break the air blockade imposed ment officials said it might take on Iraqi Airways." several days to process their documents.

Boeing 747 to fly those Amer-

. He said the Italian government Rome said there may be as many A group of 41 Japanese men as 70 Italians on the flight sche-Safi said the state airline would

"serve as the exclusive carrier for He said Baghdad was insisting blockade imposed by the United

"Iraqi Airways is prepared was prepared to fly all foreigners from this moment to transport all their travel documents are ready. to their native countries," Safi

"Only Iraqi airways will be Iraqi authorities. used to carry them. We are not There was no immediate in- allowing foreign aircraft," he could, however, fly to another

He said Iraq's goal was "to The order to free foreigners

improved the atmosphere for

Safi said American officials Gulf crisis talks Foreign Minister ign nationals began leaving Iraq chartered one of the airline's Tareq Aziz is due to hold with Saturday on chartered Iraqi Air- Boeing 707s to fly to Kuwait U.S. President George Bush in

They will be followed by talks United States also chartered a between Saddam and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in icans and others in Baghdad to Baghdad before the deadline of Jan. 15 set by the U.N. for Iraq to quit Kuwait or face war. In a U.S. television interview.

Aziz said he thought all the foreigners — mostly Britons and Americans — would be out of Iraq by Christmas, 17 days away. "I think by Christmas everybody could leave," he said.

The state airline has prepared a fleet of aircraft, including Boeing 747 Jumbo jets, to fly the foreigners out, he said in a telephone

However, he said the airline might not be able to fly Britons directly to London because it is afraid British authorities might retaliate and seize the airliner. A British Airways Boeing 747 that landed in Kuwait before the Aug. 2 invasion is still being held by

Safi said any British charter European point, probably Frankfurt or Paris.

Meanwhile, Westerners held at potential military targets in Iraq (Continued on page 5)

OPEC predicts \$23-\$27 oil price VIENNA (R) — Economists

grappling with the implications of the Gulf crisis forecast oil prices averaging between \$23 and \$27 a barrel in 1991, Organisation of Petroleum Exporting countries (OPEC) sources

But officials say war would throw all predictions into disarray. "There are very serious variables," was one delegate's understated comment on the latest forecast. OPEC ministers, sitting on a

suspended price and produc-

tion quota agreement, meet

Tuesday knowing that until the crisis is resolved any policy changes would be premature. Some are clearly uneasy that falling demand and high stocks of refined products will seriously weaken prices next spring.

The new OPEC secretariat forecasts compare with a \$21 minimum reference price set by OPEC last July. The price and output accord was suspended after Iraq's Aug. 2 invation of Knwait.

The average price of the basket of crudes used to calculate the reference price was \$27.2 in the first week of this month, the lowest since mid-August as hopes of peace in the Gulf crisis soared with Iraq's decision to free all fore-PICTS.

But one OPEC secretariat official cautioned: "Any political mishap and the price could jump \$5."

The secretariat study, which was presented at this weekend's economic commission board meeting of OPEC experts, foresees OPEC's share of world demand for crude oil running at 22.8 million barrels per day (bpd) next

Production by the 13 member countries is reckoned to be currently running around 23 million bod.

Kuwaiti and Iraqi production is down by more than four million bpd because of the U.N. trade embargo, but other producers, notably Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates, have driven up their output to make up the

OPEC will have to act fast if Iraq and Kuwait resume exporting, and an emergency meeting to draft a new pact limiting output is likely to be called once the dust settles in the Gulf.

The secretariat forecasts a 2-2.1 million bpd drop in demand for OPEC oil to 21.2 million bpd in the second quarter of 1991 as winter ends in the Northern Hemisphere, a fall about 5-600,000 bpd bigger than expected a month ago.

The OPEC economists' forecast for first quarter demand is little changed from a

(Continued on page 4)

Resistance, Israelis clash in S. Lebanon

RASHAYA, Lebanon (AP) -Israeli troops and allied militiamen fought a two-hour artillery battle Saturday with guerrillas inside Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon, security sources said.

They said guerrillas fired four Katuysha rockets on a position manned by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia at Zummaraya, three kilometres north of Hasbaya, at 1 a.m. Saturday (2300 GMT Fri-

The sources said no casualties were reported. Hasbaya, 18 kilometres south-

west of Rashaya, is in the eastern sector of the "security zone," which abuts the Bekan Valley. Simultaneously, guerrillas shelled a joint Israeli-SLA hilltop base at 'Ain Qenya and the SLA headquarters in Zaghla, both near Zummaraya, with 60-mm

added. 'That touched off a two-hour artillery duel between the Israelis and the SLA on one side and resistance men on the other. said one source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

mortar rounds, the sources

He said Israeli and SLA gunners responded with 155-mm howitzers on Mimas and 'Ain Alai, near Hasbaya, and mopped Mimas Valley with heavy

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian Foreign

Minister Ali Akbar Velayati re-

turned to Tehran Saturday after a

three-day visit to France aimed at

settling a financial dispute that

had strained ties between the

agency IRNA, received in Cyp-

rus, that President Francios Mit-

terrand had assured him of

France's commitment to settling

the dispute. He said his deputy

Mahmoud Vaezi had remained in

The dispute concerns a one-

billion-dollar loan made to

France by the Shah of Iran in

1975, four years before he was

deposed by the Islamic revolu-

thirds of the loan, but Iran is

demanding an additional \$1 bil-

ding compensation for French

companies forced out of Iran

given good and clear instructions

for us to sit down together and

solve this financial problem...

and we will leave Mr. Vaezi here

to achieve a concrete conclu-

"Both our presidents have

during the 1979 revolution.

France meanwhile is deman-

lion in accrued interest.

France has paid back two-

Paris to deal with the matter.

Velayati told the Iranian news

countries since 1979.

Velayati back from Paris

talks on financial dispute

machine gun fire. Fatch-Uprising, a Syrianbacked breakaway Palestinian faction, claimed responsibility for the attack, saying they were car-

third anniversary of the intifada. "Our guerrillas clashed with the Zionist forces and SLA militiamen in Zummaraya, 'Ain Qenya and Zaghla, inflicting many casualties among the enemy and their allies," said a Fateh-Uprising statement re-

The SLA-run Voice of the South radio station, which admitted SLA position came under guerrilla fire, did not speak of any casualties among its militiamen or Israeli soldiers.

leased in Beirut.

The incident was the latest in an upsurge of violence in the 'security zone" between Israeli troops and SLA militiamen on one hand, and Lebanese and Palestinian guerrillas on the

Five Israeli soldiers were killed and eight guerrillas were wounded in a clash last week.

Israel carved out the "security zone" after it pulled out the bulk of its occupation army in the summer of 1985, ending a threeyear invasion of the region.

The zone serves as a buffer against cross-border guerrilla infiltrations into northern Israel.

"It is not acceptable for either

French Foreign Minister Ro-

of us that this financial difficulty

land Dumas said Velayati's visit

opened a new period in Franco-

The two countries broke off

diplomatic relations for a year

between 1987 and 1988 over the

alleged involvement of an Iranian

embassy official in a series of

ment of the normalisation of rela-

tions between our two coun-

Prime Minister Michel Rocard

and Minister of Economy, Fi-

nance and Budget Pierre Bere-

Tehran Radio quoted Velayati

as saying there had been recent

breakthroughs in Franco-Iranian

relations in the industrial, com-

minate all difficulties. Only finan-

cial problems remain, and these

have been under discussion for a

few years now," Velayati said.

according to the radio which was

monitored by the British Broad-

"Both sides are striving to eli-

mercial, and political fields.

"This visit marks the achieve-

Velavati also had talks with

ference in Paris Friday.

persists.

Iranian relations.

bombings in France.

tries." Dumas said.



A Palestinian casualty is removed from Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif complex after the Oct. 8 massacre

Intifada enters fourth year

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - The Palestinian uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip enters a fourth year Sunday.

At least 742 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis and a further 283 by fellow Arabs, most on suspicion of helping Israel. Fifty-five Jews have also died. Following are the main events of the last three years:

- Dec. 9, 1987: Revolt erupts over deaths of four Gaza residents in collision that Palestinians blame on Israeli truck driver. Protests spread in ensuing days to the West Bank. - Jan. 19, 1988: Defence

Minister Yitzhak Rabin insists Israel will crush revolt with "might, force and beatings." - Feb. 25, 1988: Palestinians lynch resident of Kabativa in the West Bank in first killing of a

suspected collaborator with

Israel. - April 6, 1988: Palestinians in Beita village of the West Bank attack Jewish settlers out on a walk; 15-year-old girl shot dead by Israeli guard, becoming first Israeli civilian casualty of the revolt.

- April 16, 1988: Palestinian guerrilla leader Khalil Al Wazir. known as Abu Jihad, assassinated at his home in Tunis by Israeli commandos. Israeli sources sav. Israeli troops kill 18 Palestinians in demonstrations of the same

— July 31, 1988: Jordan announces disengagement from the West Bank to let the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) take full responsibility for the Palestinian people. - Oct. 30, 1988; Palestinians

kili three Israelis in a firebomb attack on bus near Jericho in the West Bank. - Nov. 15, 1988: Palestine National Council declares an in-

as its capital. Dec. 14, 1988: President Ronald Reagan says United States ready to open dialogue with the PLO, ending a 13-year, boycott, after Chairman Yasser Arafat says he recognises Israel's right to exist and renounces ter-

dependent state with Jerusalem

— April 13, 1989: Israeli police kill five Palestinians in Nahalin village of the West Bank in one of the bloodiest clashes of the re-

May 14, 1989: Israeli cabinet votes 20-6 to accept Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's initiative calling for Palestinians to elect

negotiators to discuss self-rule will bring Israel into contact with with Israel; only Washington. the PLO. Israel's closest ally, endorses the

— May 22, 1989: Army announces arrest of 250 activists from the Islamic resistance movement (Hamas), including its leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin; group is challenging the PLO for Palestinian support in the occu-

— July 6, 1989: Abdul Hadi Suleiman Ghneim, 25, of the Gaza Strip, seizes the wheel of Israeli bus travelling the Main Tel 'Aviv-Jerusalem highway, sends vehicle plunging into a ravine; 16 Jews die in the bloodiest attack for 11 years.

pied territories.

- Aug. 27, 1989: Israel expels five more Palestinians from the occupied territories, bringing to 58 the number expelled since the start of the uprising.

— September-October 1989: Israeli army confiscates \$5 million in property from Beit Sahour, abesieged West Bank town, for non-payment of taxes.

— March 13. 1990: Israel's left-right unity government Talls over Shamir's refusal to accept with Palestinians, Shamir fears it prisals over six weeks.

creating a new party called Move-

It would be allied with another

new fundamentalist party, the

Islamic Nahdha (Rennaissance)

movement of Sheikh Abdullah

Djaballah, based in the eastern

city of Constantine.

ment for an Islamic Society.

- May 20, 1990: Israeli gunman Ami Popper kills eight Arab job-seekers at a pickup point in Rishon Lezion near Tel Aviv.

— May 30, 1990: Israel kills four Arabs and captures 12 in foiled sea attack that prompts the United States to sever PLO contacts on June 20 after 18 months. June 11, 1990: Shamir wins

parliamentary vote of confidence for most right-wing government in Israeli history. - Sept. 20, 1990: Palestinians stone and burn to death a soldier

who blunders into Gaza's Bureii refugee camp in his car. Israel demolishes many shops and houses in the camp. - Oct. 8, 1990: Israeli police

shoot dead at least 20 Arabs in Jerusalem. The Arab deaths are the most numerous in a single civil incident since Israel occupied Arab Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the 1967

- Oct. 21, 1990: Palestinian -Omar Abu Sirhan, 19, stabs to death three Jews to avenge the Oct. 8 killings; Arabs kill a Jew U.S. proposals for first-ever talks ~and wound several in similar re-

New 'homes' for settlers mushroom in occupied lands

By Jack Redden

OCCUPIED WEST BANK --New Jewish apartments are rising across the occupied territories to ensure Israel never leaves, as the Palestinian revolt ends its third year.

"We hope that shortly there will be full annexation and the entire area will be annexed to Israel." said settler activist Yaakov Eshel. "Only five per cent of that land is enough to settle down another one miltion Jews."

Jewish settlers of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, maintain they have not only survived the Palestinian drive for independence, they have thrived.

Figures from the Council of Jewish Communities in the area show their numbers have risen from 61,265 to 91,750 in the three years. And that does not count some 150,000 in Arab Jerusalem.

Despite Israeli assurances to other countries that it is not directing Soviet immigrants to the occupied territories existing Jewish settlers are confident the flood of a million Soviet immigrants by 1993 will inundate their areas.

"When the housing dries up in the most populated and desirable parts of the coastline, you'll find people coming out our way," said Marc Zell from the settlement of Alon Shvut.

Already the 160,000 immigrrants to arrive in 1990 have nearly exhausted vacant housing. As rents have soared. poorer Israelis have been forced towards the statesubsidised living of the occupied territories. Settlers repeat government

figures that fewer than one per cent of Soviet Jews have settled in the occupied territories. Ben Greenberger, "deputy mayor" of Maale Adumim. said he thought there were only a handful in his town of 14,000 people. But official figures ignore

Arab Jerusalem, which is considered "part of Israel" and is taking about a tenth of the immigrants. They also record only who move to the occupied territories immediately, without any interval elsewhere.

As Greenberger escorted visitors around a hilltop town within sight of Jerusalem, a woman shouted at her dog in Russian. Beside their parked bus were two Russianlanguage posters for Kach, the extremist anti-Arab group.

Residents are attracted by a lifestyle they could never afford in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv, Greenberger, and American-born lawyer emphasised the indoor swimming pool and fitness centresis could be a housing projecting the southern U.S. sunbelt

In the midst of a desert stone-faced apartments draped bougainvillea around green lawns apparently immune to a national water.

"It's like living in Ellat but there's no ocean," said Flora Zaken, comparing it to Israel's Red Sea resort. The 34-yearold secretary has lived with her husband and two daughters in. Maale Adumim for six years.

Contact with their Arab neighbours is minimal. Two Palestinians carted garbage through the streets and a gardener was praying amidst some shrubbery. Visits to the nearby Arab

village are a thing of the past. The guns carried by settlers. and their readiness to use them have intimidated Palestinians

"Whether or not we like it. it certainly is helpful," Yisraei Medad of Shiloh told a news conference called to counter Palestinian publicity about the anniversary of the uprising. Settlers say they want, a change, although they make few proposals beyond seeking

to end Palestinian stoning of their cars as they commute to work in nearby Israeli cities. Many Israelis, although not the current government, oppose Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, fearing it will make a peace settle-

But on that subject the settlers are clear — they intend to stay and the 1.75 million Palestinians under Israeli occupation must never gain independence.

ment impossible.

Dina Shalit of Ariel said the high standard of living enjoyed by settlers was not a political basis for keeping the land — "although I think that is not a bad reason at all."

Instead, they talk about the "strategic importance" of the Palestinian lands for "protecting" Israel. Or they simply believe God gave it to them.

"We hope and pray that we can live at peace with our neighbours and to share the land," said Bobby Brown of Tekoa, a Jewish settlement on shooting-terms with a neighbouring Arab village.

"But if not, realise one thing - we didn't come here to leave."

sion," Velayati told a news concasting Corporation. Afghan Mujahedeen reject President's peace proposal

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — An Afghan guerrilla leader Saturday dismissed a flurry of diplomatic activity by President Najibullah as an effort to divide the resistance to the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

Burnanuddin Rabbani told a news conference he and other Mujahedeen leaders rejected Naiibullah's offer to hand over substantial powers to a neutral commission as part of a political settlement of the 12-year-old war.

"We reject this as we have previously rejected his proposals." Rabbani told reporters in Peshawar, the northern Pakistan city that is the base for most of the guerrilla leaders. The direct activities of Na-

iibullah are his desperate efforts to create rifts and divisions and they will not produce any result."

Najibullah this week expanded on an earlier offer to hand over control of the armed forces and Interior Ministry to a neutral commission that would rule the country until elections.

The United States and the Soviet Union, main backers of the two sides in the conflict, have agreed that Najibullah could retain some role during a transitional period but differences remain.

The guerrilla groups publicly refuse to contemplate any role for the Afghan president, although diplomats in Islamabad said at least one of them met Najibullah in Geneva last month.

Algerian fundamentalists demand Benjedid clarify poll date

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian Muslim fundamentalist leader Abbasi Madani has demanded President Chadli Benjedid ciarify remarks on the date of next year's first free general elections and warned of violence if they were postponed.

Madani, president of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), told a news conference Friday night Benjedid's statement on Wednesday that the poll would be held within six months cast doubt on the whole process of democratic reform in Algeria.

Benjedid had earlier said the elections would take place during the first three mouths of 1991. "If the president does not keep his promise, how can we not fear for the future of the nation? If the president has lost the trust of his people what is the justification for him remaining?." Madani

"If the elections can be postponed, they can also be cancel-

But Madani, whose party swept to victory in local polls last June, said it was not clear whether Benjedid meant six months from last Wednesday or from his decision last July to hold early elections.

The National Assembly was elected for a five-vear term in 1987 from nominees selected by the National Liberation Front. which has run a one-party state since independence in 1962.

Postponement of the poil could lead the country into an "adventure." Madani said. "Not accepting the will of the people will inevitably pash them to vioience." he said.

He rejected appeals by leaders of newly created rival fundamentalist parties to join an electoral alliance.

Sheikh Mahfoud Nahnah, a

moderate fundamentalist based

announced last Thursday he was

"We don't want to be alone in the field. Parties are multiplying, and the people will choose the one they want. Our faith in the people makes us not anxious," Madani said. But he ruled out any alliance before the election. A coalition

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

government of fundamentalist parties after the elections depended on the results, he added. Madani urged the National Assembly to withdraw its confidence from Prime Minister

Mouloud Hamrouche, due to address parliament Saturday, for a secret visit he made last May to France, the former colonial powin the central city of Blida, er.

An Algerian weekly recently

Abdali Telephone Repairs . .. 661101 Jordan Television 773111

Water Authority 680100



Chadli Benjedid

published a transcript of Hamrouche's talks with French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Michel Rocard and Madani said they revealed "the language of a slave to his master."

But unlike other opposition parties Madani said the FIS did not favour the idea of a transitional government between now and the elections, already ruled out by Chadli, Madani also declined to back

opposition calls for early presidential elections, not now due until 1993.

Libya says its PoWs in Chad being killed Deby, who has close ties to

NICOSIA (R) — Libya said Saturday 17 of its prisoners of war in Chad had been executed for disobeying a U.S. order to leave the country.

"Captives who refuse to obey the orders of America are being killed daily at the rate of three every hour under the sight and hearing of French troops and American military (personnel) in Chad," the official Libyan news agency JANA said. It did not say who was carrying

out the executions and there was no independent confirmation of its report. The number of those killed

has so far reached 17," said the report from the Chadian capital N'diamena. Rebel leader General Idriss

17:45 Paris, Rome (RJ) 17:45 Madrid (RJ)

18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

18:15 Istanbul (RJ)

18:45 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)

18:55 Frankfurt, Victora (RJ)
19:60 London (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:20 Cairo (MS)

13:30 Tripoli (LN)

16-30 Dubai (EK)

19:25 Frankfurt (LH)

24:35 Beirut (ME)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

DEPARTURES

Libya, seized power in Chad Sun-Earlier on Saturday Libya ac-

cused the U.S. of flying hundreds of Libyan PoWs out of Chad against their will and called for a U.N. Security Council debate of the American "piracy." A Foreign Ministry statement Will

carried by JANA, which is received in Cyprus, said an airlift Friday was an act of aggression by Washington, which says it is evacuating PoWs at their own request because they do not want to go back to Libva.

U.S. officials declined to comment on reports 200 Pows opposed to Libyan leader Muanmar Qadhafi were flown to Niger | 1771 ia on Friday on a U.S. air force C-141 transport plane.

14:30 Tripoli (LN)

15:36 Dubai (EK)

16:00 Doha, Muscat (GF)

MARKET PRICES

Banana 500 / 450

Banana (Mukammar) 450 / 400

Cabbage 110 / 80

Carrot 200 / 160

Cauliflower 130 / 90

Cucumbers (large)

Cucumbers (small)

Beans 270 / 200

Upperflower price in fils per kg.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel 33111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

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•	15:30	អ៊ីបានព
4	15:40	Programme review
i	15-15	. Children programme
Ŀ	17:10	
1	18:00	News summary
ı	15:10	Legal programme
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j	20:00	Programme review
:	20:30	Arabic series
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		RAMME TWO
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Church of the Annunciation To
Anglican Church Tel 625383. To
Armenian Catholic Church To
Armenian Orthodox Church To
St. Ephralm Church Tel 771751
Amman International Church To #82326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church To
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latte Day Saints Tol. 815817 and 854932
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WEATHER

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Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

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Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Excitic Power Company RJ Flight Information . . . 08-53200 Queen Alia Inti. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

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Zarga National Hospital .. (09)991071 Ibn Sma Hospital (09)986732 Princess Basma Hospital .. (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibo Al Nafces Hospital.... (02)247100 AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 99:45 Doba (RJ) 16.00 Jeddah (RJ) 19:36 Cairo (RJ)

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that subject : Taraireh as treasurer. al economy. "The board's election comes at a crucial moment



Mohammad Asfour

nomic restructuring programme," Asfour said." ir "The present circumstances make it incumbent on Jordan to introduce amendments to the -conomic restructuring programme so that the country can achieve the best results and overgome the economic hardships," Asfour added.

"Jordan can by no means restore its economic stability and adjust the balance of payments without increasing the volume of exports and without opening new markets to compensate for the loss of the country's traditional markets in the Gulf countries," Asfour said.

The Chamber of Commerce, he stressed, believes that people should be encouraged to reduce spending, a step that is being taken by the government, and that the government should allow the importation of various commodities and food supplies through the private sector so as to lessen the financial burden shouldered now by the Ministry of Supply.

Referring to the question of memployment, Asfour said that a solution for this problem should involve the cooperation of various economic sectors, including the business sector.

Asfour received 1,743 votes in last Monday's election for the 12-member board of directors. A total of 28 candidates ran for the 12-seat board. They were grouped into three different blocs

Brotherhood to give final answer on joining Cabinet

* at 21

By Ghadeer Taber Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After almost three weeks of low-key negotiations, the government expects the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood to give, by Tuesday, its final answer on the movement's participation in the Cabinet, the leader of the Brotherhood said Satur-

Mohammad Abdul Rahman Khalifeh, the spiritual leader of the group, said he had planned to meet with Prime Minister Mudar Badran by Tuesday to announce the Islamic movement's final decision on taking portfolios in a possible Cabinet

reshuffle. Parliamentary sources said the Brotherhood had presented a list of 12 demands to the government as a precondition for joining the Cabinet, including the application of Islamic Sharia and specific ministerial positions.

Khalifeh said the Brotherbood had no conditions "except that we want to find ourselves in a position that would enable us to affect reform in the government."

He confirmed that there "are some differences over portfolios." but refused to disclose what posts the Brotherhood was seeking.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran refused to comment on the ongoing negotiations but parhamentary sources confirmed that Khalifeh as well as other Brotherhood members were holding talks with the premier.

"We are not interested in power for power's sake," Khalifeh told the Jordan Times. "We want to achieve reform which requires specific conditions that would have to be met."

Independent deputies said Badran wanted to give the movement four "functional" portfolios such as the ministries of labour and housing and public works rather than policy-making posts including the ministries of information and education.

Khalifeh refused to say what answer the leadership would give to the government, but indicated that there was opposition within the movement to joining the govern-

ment at this time. He said, however, that if the Brotherhood joined the govwould also be given ministerial House.

posts. Khalifeh said that he had asked for a post for Christian Deputy Fawzi Tuaimeh, who is a member of the Parliamentary Unity Coalition which propelled Brotherhood candidate Abdul Latif Arabiyat into the House speakership post.

In an interview published this week, Arabiyat confirmed that the Brotherhood "will join a new government as long as there was agreement on the principles of action."

"I think, in principle, there will be participation as long as there is an agreement on reform and our participation will be for the sake of reform and nothing else," Arabiyat told Al Dustour Arabic daily. National Bloc deputies said

a Brotherhood delegation visited Cairo last week for "consultations" with the leadership of Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. One deputy expressed dismay over what he described as "lack of independence of the movement," hinting that the Brotherhood in Jordan was consulting its Egyptian counterpart over joining the government.

Khalifeh confirmed that a delegation had visited Cairo. but denied that the group was consulting on government affairs.

"They (the delegation) were there to discuss social and health matters, including the election of Deputy Ali Hawamdeh as secretarygeneral of the (Islamic) medical association." Khalifeh said. There are no contacts concerning matters of govern-

Independent and leftist deputies say that the Brotherhood put "tough conditions" for their participation, reflecting divisions within the movement over participation in Badran's government.

They said that while factions in the movement were in favour of participation, others preferred to remain outside so as "not to be contained" by the government

When Badran first formed his government he tried to include members of the Brotherhood, the largest single bloc in Parliament, but negotiations had failed. Momentum to include members of the movement in the Cabinet increased when Muslim Brotherernment, deputies who are bood Deputy Arabiyat won the allied with the movement race for speakership of the

and five independent candidates. Water, land and road top House agenda today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament is due to hold a session Sunday under the chairmanship of its Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat and in the presence of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Cabinet members to discuss a range of questions and replies by ministers to queries raised by House mem-

A statement here Saturday said that the agenda included a reply by Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh to a question about the construction of a highway between Jewideh and Yadoudeh south of

Ammen.

from the German government

mestion of water in Jordan and a draft law on state-owned land in response to queries by 10 de-

The items on the agenda include the orphan fund draft law and the Armed Forces martyrs

Several deputies who had requested to take the floor in last week's session will be allowed to address the session, the statement said. These include Husni Shiyat, Mohammad Dardour, Faouzi Tuweimeh. Ahmad Innab. Ahmad Kafawin, Daoud Kojak, Kamel Omari and Hisham Al

Meanwhile the House's Finan-The House will discuss the cial Committee Saturday held a

CBJ confirms receiving

session during which discussion centred on the 1991 fiscal budget which was presented to the House by Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh.

Following the meeting, the committee's Chairman Abdullah Ensour said that the committee had recommended reducing spending in a number of areas. and noted that committee members would hold a session Sunday to discuss the health situation in the Kingdom in the presence of Health Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben. Saturday's committee session

was attended by Jardaneh and the director of the Budget Depart-

50,000 people, the majority of Education and a winner of the importance of this commodity, whom are farmers, the region is ministry's contest for model and since it does not require as well known for its arable land. It parks, Queen Noor officially much water as other crops. provides the Kingdom with most opened the park, toured its faciliof its needs for agricultural pro- ties and distributed awards to the promised to try to help the farducts and is also the main source winner schools.

Queen Noor visits

for production of fruits and vegetables for export, which enhances Club the Queen laid the founda- at more affordable prices. The the national income.

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

the Jordan Valley.

Valley region (Petra photos)

Queen Noor visited the region, equipment, respectively.

inspected the services available education.

dan Valley Authority (JVA) of During the inspection tour, the doctors' dormitory.

the Ministry of Health promised as well as a number of agricultuto meet most of the hospital's ral units where the secretary Kreimah Housing be provided needs and requests. The hospit- general of the Jordan Valley Aual's director thanked the Queen thority briefed her on agriculture for her visit and her efforts to in the region and the difficulties upgrade the region's infrastruc- this vital sector is facing. ture services, especially in the JVA already began undertakhealth sector.

panying party then proceeded to measures include the constructhe North Shuneh Charitable tion of large dams (three have Consumer's Corporation don-Society where they were received already been completed), and the ated 50 boxes of various comby its president who pointed out construction of smaller dams on modities to the villages in the the needs of his establishment, the channels that drain in the region. which include financial support as Jordan Valley as well as the

al toys, tables and chairs for the executing a new irrigation system

tion tour of the northern part of 1991.

Her Majesty Queen Noor lays the foundation stone for the second phase of construction at Al Mashara'

Youth Club (above). Below, Queen Noor inspects one of the kindergartens in the northern Jordan

With a population of around a project of the Ministry of vated with grains, considering the

tion stone for the second phase of minister-said that he would try to Like other areas in the King- its construction, which, according intervene to control the prices dom, the region is in need of a to its director, was temporarily and would encourage farmers' number of services and facilities. halted for lack of financial sup- unions to import these products That is why the area was included port until it was promised to be and sell them to farmers at more in the Queen's programme of secured upon the Queen's direc- reasonable prices. However, he inspection visits which aim at tives by the Ministry of Youth. providing the inhabitants with the The Jordanian Cement Industry help and assistance needed to Company and the Ceramic Indusovercome their economic difficul- tries Company followed suit, and nies and improve their living stan- donated 10 tonnes of cement and ceramic tiles as well as sanitary tries of origin. The difficulty of

In Wadi Al-Yabes, five affected the prices of goods. and was briefed on the needs of kilometres south of Al-Mashara, its people. She was accompanied Queen Noor visited the Wadi social development, health and ety and the Cooperative Producwell as maintenance by the Jor- that increase the family's income.

Queen Noor also visited the Wa-Upon the Queen's directives, quas Center for the Handicapped

ing a series of measures to deal The Queen and the accom- with the irrigation problem; the amounts of money involved.

The Queen donated education- The authority is also currently

northern Jordan Valley kindergarten as well as other with pressurised pipes to increase items requested by the society, the efficiency of irrigation by 30 and the minister of social de-per cent over the old system using velopment promptly included the canals. In addition, JVA will AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen society's financial needs in his work on maintaining the King Noor Saturday made an inspec- ministry's budget for the year Abdullah Canal to increase its efficiency, and will give priority At the Zmaliyeh Park, which is of water irrigation to lands culti-

> The Ministry of Agriculture mers to acquire agricultural pro-Later, at Al Mashara' Youth ducts such as seeds and pesticides maintained that prices of such commodities were high due to the devaluation of the dinar in relation to other currencies, and due to their high prices in the coun-

> > ships to enter Agaba Port also

The repercussions of the Gulf crisis severely affected the agrion the visit by the ministers of Al-Yabes Charitable Ladies Soci- cultural sector in Jordan where the farmers lost a major market tive Women's Society, where she for their exports in the Gulf The Queen first visited the was briefed by their presidents on countries. The ministry is to coor-Mu'ath Bin Jabal Hospital, which the societies' activities and re- dinate with the Jordanian Comhas a capacity of 30 beds, but, quirements. Here the Queen also pany for Marketing and Manufacaccording to its director, is in donated furniture and education- turing Agricultural Products, to need of specialists in dermatology al toys for the kindergarten. She try to absorb the surplus of tomaand ophthalmology, qualified instructed the Noor Al-Hussein toes and use it for manufacturing pediatric nurses, incubators, Foundation to conduct a survey purposes (the surplus quantity ultrasound machine, upgrading of what it can offer to the charit- reached 70,000 tonnes this year the equipment of one of the three able societies in North Shuneh to only). The private sector is also ambulances, a dialysis machine as help introduce productive skills requested to find new alternative markets, especially in Europe.

> Regarding the citizens' requests that the villages of Sukhna. Hamidiyah, and Northern with electricity, the Jordan Electricity Authority said it was awaiting the government's instructions on assigning priority for financing the installation of electricity in the villages, considering the great

> As a welcome gesture, the Civil

Queen Noor was received in of North Shuneh, its mayor and chief of police as well as other government officials.

of agreements signed here in the tention to devalue the dinar. well as items such as furniture for drilling of ground water in side North Shuneh by the Irbid gov-. past month, CBJ Governor then," he said. its kindergarten, children's books valleys, for supporting water re- ernor, the district's representative Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi The CBJ plans to issue two Since the outbreak of the Gulf and indoor and outdoor equip- sources to the King Abdullah in Parliament, the district officer types of treasury bonds in U.S. crisis in August, the Kingdom's dollars with interest rates equivament for games.

announced Saturday. He said that the funds would be used to support the 1991 fiscal budget and to cover the purchase of specified commodities for the

country.

The 1991 fiscal budget has a deficit of JD 216.7 million and the government hopes that aid from friendly nations will help cover this amount, said Nabuki.

The government also presented to the Parliament a JD 120 million emergency budget which, it said, would be needed to cover the cost of caring for expatriates returning from the Gulf and other urgent matters.

In his announcement Nabulsi said that the funds received by the CBJ were part of financial aid promised to Jordan which carried most of the brunt as a result of had the desire to keep their the Gulf crisis. Italy is giving \$26.5 million,

Canada has allocated \$22.8 mil-

lion, France has granted \$20 mil-

lion, the Netherlands is offering

Japanese, German funds

Speaking in a television interly received a grant of \$120 million view earlier this week, Nabulsi said that Jordan was in a very and nearly \$55 million from the comfortable situation as far as its Japanese government as a longforeign currency reserves were term soft loan in implementation concerned and there was no in-

foreign exchange reserves have only decreased by \$150 million and now they stand at \$560 milhon, Nabulsi told Jordan Televi-

"There are different means of computing the foreign currency reserves, and if we include the amounts of foreign currency available for the 'CBJ plus the gold reserves and Jordan's loans to other countries, the total reserves can come up to around \$1,000 million in addition to a similar sum owned by Jordanian commercial banks," Nabulsi said.

Nabulsi attributed the pressure

measure for emergencies. Nabulsi said that CBJ had opened the door for all citizens to unlimited, unrestricted withdrawals from their accounts and this policy helped reduce the desire for withdrawals.

"Soon after the outbreak of the crisis citizens withdrew about JD 120 million and \$160 million from Jordanian banks, but all these deposits had been returned since

lent to the London interbank offered rates (Libor), which is normal bank interest rates plus one eighth per cent extra on one type and one quarter per cent extra on the other.

The bonds will have a maturity period of five years, but the first type could be redeemed at the CBJ two years after being issued while the other type can only be redeemed after five years. Nabulsi said that Israel had

several times tried to throw the Jordanian money market into chaos by circulating counterfeit money, but the CBJ, in cooperation with the concerned authorities, had taken proper measures to foil such attempts.

A new draft law on money Council of Ministers and Parlia-

Road to be closed for construction works

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Public Works and Housing has decided to close the present road which links Amman with Irbid in the north for eighteen months because it said that the road has become unsafe to travel on due to intensive traffic, and lack of side roads that would divert the traffic from areas under construction.

"The ministry's teams and contractors have been carrying out construction work on a new road from Amman to Irbid through Jerash for some time, and the first phase of the project has just been completed, but work is still continuing on the second phase of the road, making travel hazardous," the ministry explained in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. The statement, issued by Rashdan Al Rashdan, the ministry's secretary general, said that the first phase of the three-stage project, a 24-kilometre stretch, was completed 500 days behind schedule due to financial and administrative problems encoun-

"The delay in work on the first phase prompted the ministry to set up a committee, representing the bank which is financing the project, the contractors and the ministry, to take direct supervision of the project," the statement said.

tered by the contractors.

It said that a diversion road was to be used by traffic between Amman and Irbid until the whole

project has been completed. probably in the second half of

The diversion road links Irbid with Rahab, Balama, Al Hashemieh, Zarqa and Amman, the statement said. According to Rashdan, the di-

version road is 104 kilometres long, exceeding by 15 kilometres the present Amman-Irbid road. He said that road signs to direct traffic and facilitate travel had been installed along the whole diversion road.

When completed, Rashdan said, the new Ammn-Irbid road will be only 57.5 kilometres long. The total cost of construction is estimated at JD 28.5 million.



With their HOLD TALKS: - Mali's Foreign Minister Angelo Trauri Saturday paid a brief visit to Jordan and held talks with Deputy Prime Minister the streets; and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Queen on was praying, developments in the Middle East and efforts to solve the Gulf crisis peacefully. The two ministers to the nearly also discussed bilateral cooperation and issues of common interest. Trauri told reporters before

most issues in the region and expressed hope that the Gulf issue as well as other problems can be solved within the framework of cooperation among Muslim nations. Transi welcomed Irac's decision to free all foreign nationals, describing it as a good step leading towards a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.



By Ziyad Al Shilleh

y of the up. Special to the Jordan Times dthough the AMMAN — The newly elected isals beyond Board of Directors of the Am-Hestinian sie man Chamber of Commerce held as they come its first meeting in Amman Saturlearby Island, day and elected Mohammad steelis, althor Asfour as board chairman for a

make a pear, Mohammad Al Muhtasseb as secretary general and Ismail Following his election, Asfour the 1.75 expressed hope that the board ans under members would shoulder their full nust new responsibility to serve the nation-

ard of hinger which requires from each of its members to double efforts and contribute towards boosting the national economy by increasing I thin trade activities with other countries," Asfour said in his state-

imported is: "The present economic crisis in I lands in F Jordan was aggravated largely :1. Or this E because of the consequences of od gave the Gulf crisis and its impact on

pe and part Jordan, which impeded the Kingat Peace we dom's implementation of the err-**HOME NEWS IN BRIEF**

Congressman arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Wayne Owens of Salt Lake City is due in Amman Sunday on a two-day visit to Jordan. Owens is to assess regional problems in light of the Gulf crisis light of the Gulf crisis.

Ministry to give saplings free of charge

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Suleiman Arabiyat ed power in announced Saturday that forest tree saplings produced by ministry nurseries would be distributed free of charge to Saturday is individuals and institutions to be planted during the present rainy J.S. of flymes season. Millions of saplings produced by the nurseries will be Pows out distributed through the ministry's various departments around the

Coupon holders urged to use them

gn Ministry & before Dec. 22 AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply Saturday urged members of the public who hold coupons for milk, rice and sugar to buy their needs of these commodities before Dec. 22. It said that beyond that date the coupons would become worthless and the beneficiaries, would have to wait for new types of coupons to

be issued early next year.

been assigned to the job.

reports 20 Marriott opens office at QAIA if were now. AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Marriott Hotel has opened an office ay on 3 U.S. at the Onesn Alia International Air Amman Marriott Hotel has opened an office at the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) to provide assistance to hotel guests. Two of the hotel's staff members have

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and prior the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

er price in the fi EXHIBITIONS * Exhibition of British archaeological projects in Jordan at the Royal Cultural Centre.

> * Exhibition entitled 'L'orient des cafes" at the French Cultural FILMS Fritz Lang film festival: silent film entitled "Das Testament des

Dr. Mabuse" (1933 production) at the Goethe Institute --- 8:00 * Feature film entitled "Field of Dreams" at the American Centre — 6:30 p.m.

AQABA CULTURAL WEEK

Exhibition entitled "Goethe-Forest" at Aqaba Visitors' Cen-

Exhibition entitled "Alla --- an Islamic City on the China Sea"

at Aquha Visitors' Centre.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central \$18 million and Taiwan \$20 mil-

Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has recent-

on deposits in Jordanian dinars and in other foreign currency at the start of the Gulf crisis to withdrawals by depositors who money in cash as a precuationary

changers has been referred to the ment which have the right to introduce the necessary amendments, Nabuki said.

Jordan Times

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Dictates of history

ON THE eve of the third anniversary of the Palestinian intifada, the U.S. and Israel joined hands for the umpteenth time to cast a negative vote against the five resolutions on the Palestinian question adopted Friday by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Washington and Tel Aviv were once again voting against U.N. resolutions that purport to convene an international conference on the Middle East, the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the resolution of the Palestinian refugee problem in accordance with previous resolutions. But that is not all. For the past few weeks Washington has been filibustering in the Security Council with a view to delaying the adoption of a resolution that aims to hold an international peace conference on the Palestinian issue as well as extending some international protection to the Palestinian people under occupation. Meanwhile the Palestinian people's steadfastness against Israeli occupation remains firm. As the Palestinian intifada today enters its fourth year with renewed vigour and determination irrespective of its toll. If there is a message in the intifada against Israeli occupation and oppression it is the Palestinians' determination to persevere till they gain their freedom and independence. The international community has already extended recognition of and support for the Palestinian people by adopting a series of resolutions on the issue. What is preventing these resolutions from being implemented is clearly the position of Washington and Tel Aviv. The U.S. was, and remains to be, the missing link in what is otherwise unanimous world support for the yearnings and aspirations of the Palestinian people. At a time when the White House religiously insists on the implementation of the twelve resolutions on Iraq adopted by the Security Council in the course of the last few months. Washington maintains its clear double standards when it comes to the Middle East conflicts by blocking the implementation of the resolutions adopted equally by the Security Council and the General Assembly in the last five decades. No wonder the White House does not accept any linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Middle East conflicts. Washington wants and seeks different standards and principles to apply on the Arab-Israeli conflicts from those that it orchestrated for the Kuwaiti situation.

But the people of Palestine and all honourable Arabs everywhere will never accept this hypocrisy and duplicity. This Sunday the intifada celebrates and commemorates its third anniversary as a clear signal to Washington and Tel Aviv in particular that the torth of freedom in the occupied Palestinian lands will never be extinguished. If anything, the intifada may escalate, and it will never recede in stamina and determination. The Palestinian people have already declared that they have vouched and taken a solemn oath never to surrender or submit to oppression and occupation even if it takes scores of years of struggle. Tel Aviv and Washington would save themselves and the world much agony and suffering if they would only heed the dictates of history.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily said Saturday the United Nations General Assembly has issued five resolutions calling for the convening of an international Middle East peace conference and the implementation of Security Council. Intions 242 and 338 as well as the solution of the refugee problem in implementation of the assembly's resolution of 1948. In all these resolutions only Israel and the United States cast the negative vote among the United Nations members, said the paper. This American-Israeli strategy which has characterised Washington's policies in the past still persists; and America's enmity towards the Arab nation in general and the Palestinians in particular remains unchanged, the paper pointed out. Furthermore, the United States has just repeated that it will not make a linkage between the Middle East problem and the Gulf crisis in a bid to do service to Israel by keeping the Palestine problem outstanding and untouched, so that no international pressure can be imposed on the Jewish state to end its occupation of Arab lands, the paper pointed out. By continuing to protect and support Israel's aggression on the Arabs, said the paper, the United States is trying to humiliate the Arab nation; and by ignoring the Palestinian people, Washington is disregarding their legitimate rights, the paper added. It said that the United States should realise that Iraq's Aug. 2 take over of Kuwait was the beginning of the change of the whole situation in

A columnist in Al Ra'l daily calls on the concerned water authorities to adopt two strategies: one to be applied in the case of heavy rainfall this season, and the other to be implemented if very little rain fell in the coming three months. Salah Abdul Samad says when presented to the public, these two strategies are most likely to be supported because it would make people realise the seriousness of the situation. There is need for the water authorities to embark on candid policies and to start a nation-wide campaign to spread awareness concerning the need to economise in the use of water, the writer says. He reminds his readers of the prime minister's statement at the last parliament session when he said that he was sounding the alarm about the water situation. The water authorities and the members of the public will not only be beeding Badran's warning and complying to government orders, the writer pointed out, but they will rather be adjusting to the requirements of the present and future water situations and taking proper steps to deal with any eventuality. Citizens should not despair or panic since Almighty God will always bless them. with His mercy, but he says, at the same time Jordanians must undertake proper measures in the face of any situation.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

When expatriates return home

THE movement of Arab labourers within the Arab World is almost the only economic integration factor in operation. Inter-Arab trade has constituted no more than six per cent of the total Arab trade while 94 per cent of Arab imports and exports came from or went to the outside world. The movement of Arab capital and investments in other Arab countries has been extremely limited and almost confined to Arab developement funds which extended loans, and scarcely made direct investments. Labour was and still is the only productive commodity to cross over borders within the Arab World.

In general, one can recognise two groups of Arab countries. The first group includes the oil rich countries, such as Iraq, Libya, and all Arab Guif states. They import labour. The second group includes other, more populated and less wealthy countries, such as Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Sudan, Tunis and to a certain extent Syria and Lebanon. These export labour.

Jordan is unique in that it is the only country that imports and exports labour at the same time and at a very large scale relative to the size of its manpower resources and labour market. Over two-fifths of the Jordanian labour force is working abroad, while at least one quarter of those working in Jordan are nonJordanians, mainly Egyptian and Asian labourers. Extensive expatriation has far-reaching and social consequ-

ences. But the most salient effects are felt in the labour market and the balance of payments, where remittances contribute to foreign currency reserves.

In Jordan's case, one can imagine what kind of an unemployment level we would have if it were not for the 330,000 Jordanians working abroad, including 280,000 in Arab Gulf states. Of the latter figure over 80,000 had until recently been working in Kuwait.

The remittances from the expatriates at one time were more important than exports in terms of proceeds is foreign exchange. But not so in recent years, because exports expanded quickly while remittances stagnated or declined as a result of the economic recession in the economies of the Gulf states following the drop in oil prices in 1982 and in the ensuing years.

The building up of a well-educated and trained labour force to be dispatched for working abroad is a very costly operation. The Gulf states used to recruit the best of Jordan's qualified staff and skilled labour with extensive experience. This contributed to a shortage in trained manpower in Jordan leading our development efforts to suffer during the latter years of the seventies and earlier

years of the eighties. A study conducted at the Ministry of Labour revealed that annual remittances received by Jordan from expatriates were not a in excess of 9 per cent of the cost of their education and training Therefore, HRH Crown Prince Hassan called for an Arab and international financial fund to compensate the countries exporting the labour force, because these countries pay the costs of education, training and retirement for a labour force that works

elsewhere while the importing countries take the expatriates in

their youth when they are at their productive peak. Jordan is now facing a big economic problem due to its inability to absorb the returnees from Kuwait who, with their families make some quarter of a million people. Assuming that the cost of absorbing one returnee is \$20,000 Jordan would need \$5 billion to absorb the thousands who have came back from Kuwait - a staggering amount that exceeds the total gross national prodouct The emergency takes place at a time when Jordan continues to suffer from severe economic problems and delay in receiving financial and economic aid promised by industrialised countries in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis.

This makes it all the more difficult for Jordan and its people to put our house back in order, and on a steady course again

Germany is united now but the challenge lies in making it work

By Mark Fritz

The Associated Press

BERLIN — Two governments made German unity possible this year, but the United Nation's newly elected leadership faces perhaps an even more daunting task: Making it work.

In the rush to unify, East and West Germany left some of the most pressing questions for the government that would replace them including:

- How to use, dispose of. analyse or make public the secret files on 6 million people kept by East Germany's former secret police.

- How to find and whether to prosecute Communist Party functionaries and secret police agents alleged to have committed crimes ranging from corruption to mur-

- How to sift through the morass of 1 million claims on Eastern German property made by Western Germans who used to live in the region.

— Whether to move the sear of government to Berlin, the new capital, or leave it in Boan, the

The most immediate concern, however, will be dealing with the mounting costs of unification and the cash drain that former East Germany has become.

A Day after Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his Christian Democrats were elected to lead the united nation, officials of Germany's central bank on Monday made comments that were seen as early warning signs that the costs of unification could hurt the strong German economy.

Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl, perhaps the most powerful man in Germany behind Kohl, said in a magazine inteview that the government plans to borrow too much money to rebuild former East Germany.

Stern Magazine were confirmed by the bank's press department. said "far-reaching and drastie" government spending cuts were needed to offset the borrowing. The government plans to bor-

row up to 150 billion marks (\$100

Poehl, whose comments to

billion) in 1991. Johann Wilhelm Gaddum, a director of the bank, also criticised the level of borrowing.

Gaddum, the Bundesbank director responsible for Eastern Germany, said Monday that officials don't understand repeated warnings about the dangers of

high government borrowing. "When I look at the planned growth rates of the public budgets for 1991. I have doubts whether the message has been understood," the director said in an interview on Germany's ARD television.

Eastern Germany's teetering economy is expected to crash and burn in the first three months of next year.

East Germany was a principal exporter of industrial goods to other East Bloc nations, and many of those contracts expire in

Economists say many may not be renewed by struggling nations who may find it cheaper to use their nonconvertible currency to buy goods from Hungary, for example, rather than Germany.

Likewise, many enterprises are operating only on credit that will run out in the first quarter of next

Joblessness is officially only about 573,000, about 6.1 of the

workforce. But economists say up to 1 million people now are carrying around layoff notices that take effect in January or March.

They say eastern region joblessness next year may eventually reach 4 million, roughly half of the workforce in the former na-

The new nation also needs to mesh two sharply different school systems, apply Western environmental safeguards to one of the world's most polluted regions and repair a communications and transportation system considered crucial to luring new investment into the East.

The questions already are beginning to create dissent among the politicians likely to comprise Kohl's new government. The centrist Free Democrats,

the junior partner in Kohl's old government, demanded Monday that Eastern German companies. pay lower taxes than their Western counterparts.

Kohl has previously said he opposes such a move, but Monday he refused to talk about it to reporters. Kohl needs the Free Democrats to get a majority in parliament:

was tantamount to betraying his

two grandfathers, who were both

jailed under dictator Josef Stalin.

And under no circumstances was

he about to give up his post of

occupies the ruling position and

we should use it to push the

country towards new horizons

within the framework of socialist

choice," he told the Moscow

But his bid to press ahead with

The debate on the future shape

a more conservative approach

could run aground on nationali-

of the country has pitted him

against determined separatists in

the Baltic and Transcaucasia and

populist leaders such as Russia's

Boris Yeltsin refusing central

Critics say his long insistence

on maintaining the unity of the

Soviet Union demonstrated a

clear misunderstanding of nation-

al sentiment as communists gave

way to nationalist governments in

"You get the impression that

100 peoples and 15 republics have

landed out of space yesterday or

last week," he told the cultural

He said conclusion of the "un-

ion treaty" redefining the rela-

tionship between the Kremlin

and the republics on his terms

which lay disintegration.

was the "last ditch" beyond

Republican leaders outlining

their stand in a Sunday newspap-

er survey were virtually all

areas such as Uzbekistan and

republic after republic.

workers.

Kirghizia.

ties policy.

economic control.

"Now the Communist Party

party general secretary.

'There used to be' a homeland, but...

By Jack Redden

RAMALLAH, West Bank — The shattered remains of a sign for Charlie perfume hang above a drab street in the centre of Ramallah, a legacy of the fashionable lifestyle that died with the Israeli occupa-

"There used to be six hotels in Ramallah — one first class and the rest second," said Salim Tamari, a sociologist at the town's Bir Zeit University.

"Now you can't stay in Ramallah unless you know someone. You can't eat in Ramallah except for falafel and humus street vendors," he said. "After dark it becomes a ghost town."

Ramaliah's role as a summer resort for the Arab World came to an abrupt end when Israel captured the town 15 kilometres north of Jerusalem during the 1967 Middle East

The decline of a town noted for its comfortable Christian ! /ito leap into action and Muslim middle class accelerated when the intifaday rastopped by (Israeli) settlers. - the Palestinian revoit against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip — erupted three years

Emigration has increased, with every middle class family pointing to lists of relatives abroad. A Ramallah club in the United States sends aid to the town of 25,000 people.

"The absence of normality is the defining factor of middle class life," said Tamari, whose university was closed by the army at the start of the revolu-"It's becoming normal in a deadly way."

On calm days shops are padlocked by 1 p.m. as part of the revolt. Other days they never open because of strikes called by underground Palestinian leaders or an army curfew.

Restrictions on schools have hit a middle class that places its hopes in education. Elementary and secondary schools were closed through much of the revolt and Ramallah's university, although operating in makeshift facilities with tacit Israeli approval, remains officially closed. - -

But the most oppressive part for people who are respected members of their own communities is what they regard as daily humiliations and fear caused by Israel's 23-year military rule:

"They are treating us like 'guests' - unwanted guests." said Doctor Shawqi Harb, a heart surgeon at Ramallah Hospital. The way the Israelis are treating us is a method of slow eviction of the population."

Israeli settlements have. almost encircled the town. The area of the West Bank annexed by Israel in its effort to extend-Jerusalem its capital stretches almost to the edge of RamaiHarb describes a lifestyle in

which people are afraid to venture further than a neighbour's house at night. Unexplained gunfire is routine. routine.

"It has always been difficult in the evenings since 1967. But since the intifada people are confined most of the time to their homes," he said.

"Doctors have permits to go around even during curfew hours but those often don't work - it depends on the mood of the soldier on the checkpoint," the 52-year-old doctor said. If he wants to leave Israel to attend medical meetings abroad, he has to apply for permission weeks in advance.

Israeli soldiers seeking local cover often commandeer private cars — the roomy Mercedes and Volvos of wealthier Arabs are favoured. Local citizens now opt for smaller, two-door cars, soldiers need four-door models from which

"Several times I have been even inside Ramallah," the silver-haired surgeon said. "They are armed and will just stand in the middle of the road. You don't know if they will

shoot." Harb, who trained at U.S. universities, said that early in the revolt 90 per cent of his patients had been wounded in clashes with the army. Even now that violence has subsided

the figure is 25 per cent. His two oldest sons are at university in the United States, but he wornes each time his 14-year-old son walks the turbulent streets to school that he might be swept up in the

periodic mass arrests. Members of the town's dwindling middle class say they now spend more time with their families and neighbours. Video sales have boomed and tutors have been hired to give private lessons during the frequent school closures.

"People are getting used to the intifada and they are adjusting," Usama Khalaf said in his pizza restaurant that closed on Dec. 9, 1987 — the first day of the uprising.

Now, as the third anniversary of the revolt approaches. Khalaf and his brothers have reopened on Ramallah's main street scene of tyre burnings, molotov cocktails and countless

clashes with the army. An Italian restaurant evokes memories of Ramallah's glory days but the operation of "angelos" is determined by the new realities. The brothers hope to sell takeaway pizzas after the daily afternoon strike cioses the shops.

"They are saying this in our destiny, our way of life, so we have to change our lives," said Khalaf. 'Life will never be the way it was before."

against them or given prompt trials, the Italian group said. been used by Israeli authorities to

"Administrative detention has keep prisoners in jail because of their opinions," the report said.

It asked Israel to re-examine the system of "administrative detention" and free those held

Amnesty also said that

thousands of Palestinians had been subjected to torture at the hands of Israeli soldiers or in

with cigarettes, depriving people of sleep, covering their heads with boods and striking them, the report said.

"Amnesty International seriously worried about the treatment of Palestinians during de tention and in particular dismethods of interrogation pure ticed" by security services, it see

It cited the case of Rame lead. lah, 11, of the Buraij research camp in Gaza. The Italian said the boy was arrested on the 25 following the dealers Israeli soldier in the care.

A lawyer who was per

SHARING A KITCHEN. SHODDY CLOTHES. SHODDY SHOES WHEN YOU CAN GET THEM. TEN YEAR WAIT TO BUY A CAR. PERESTROIKA, MY FOOT. GIVE MEA BREAK, MKHAIL! I CAN EPPLAN, BUT IT WILL TAKE SIX OR SEVEN YEARS ...

Gorby grappling with reform

NO FRESH YEGETABLES. NO FUEL.

NO SOAP. NO MEAT. FOURTEEN PEOPLE

SHARING A BATHROOM. FIVE FAMILIES

MOSCOW — President Mikhail Gorbachev, at a crossroads with his reforms, appears to be retreating to conservative positions and relying on the pillars of Soviet society — the army, the Communist Party and the workers.

By Ron Popeski

In speeches leading up to decisions this week on tackling food shortages and overhauling state institutions yet again. Gorbachev appears to have ended five years of deftly walking a tightrope between radicals and conservatives.

The addresses were to cultural workers and leaders of the Moscow Communist Party. But he was clearly looking over his shoulder at other groups wielding considerably more influence notably the restless army and workers disaffected with failure to improve their poor living standards.

"We need to strengthen the institutions on which any society is based, including a democratic one," he told Moscow communists. "I mean the army and the security forces. This most be

done and is being done now." Gorbachev's popularity has plunged further in recent weeks as Soviet citizens line up in queues or deal with speculators to feed their families and Western donors send in planes and trucks full of food to tide the country

over the winter. Calls from prominent conservatives for Gorbachev to take action or resign and deep mistrust within the five million-strong rarmed forces may have been behind his decisive shift.

He appeared to drive home his

OPEC

month ago, at around 23.3

One OPEC delegate said

that if peace was achieved in

the Gulf prices would settle

below the secretariat's fore-

casts as Iraqi and Kawaiti sup-

plies were restored. "But if

there is destruction prices will

go to unpredictable levels," he

The most unlikely scenario

in the crisis, given the U.N.'s

Jan. 15 deadline for Iraq to get

out of Kuwait or face possible

war, is a protracted stalemate.

million bod.

added.

(Continued from page 1)

fles, by replacing Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin with a hardline communist official. Bon's He also appointed the former commander of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, Boris Gromov, as

point on Sunday, in the first of a

promised series of cabinet reshuf-

first deputy interior minister. After months of insisting that the market economy was the only way out of the country's crisis, Gorbachev came out firmly against widespread introduction private property — a key element in attracting foreign in-

Widespread private property. he said, violated the traditions of Soviet rural society and should be confined to areas in which "cooperatives and the state sector do

not work as they should." Numerous schemes to check the growth of the black market have culminated in a presidential

decree authorising "workers bri-

This would see prices settling

in the lower end of the \$23

The study suggests there is

no shortage of oil products.

Even for Asian markets hit by

the loss of supplies from

Kuwait's refining system, pro-

ducts seem fairly readily avail-

OPEC's ministerial market

monitoring committee meets

on Tuesday and the winter

conference gets formally under

way on Wednesday. OPEC

sources say it is unlikely to last

more than a couple of days.

Envoy

(Continued from page 1)

10-327 range, he said.

under threat in any of the republies where the army is viewed with contempt or bostility - particularly in the separatist Baltic region — are now authorised to Gorbachev also made clear

gades" to curb diversion of food

supplies and arrest and charge

violators. The brigades, to be

elected at factories, are widely

seen as a means of increasing

sists that the Soviet Union "can-

not be divided" after nearly a

year of cajoling its republics by

adopting legislation on secession

and negotiating a new treaty for a

Servicemen deemed to be

Gorbachev now repeatedly in-

communist influence.

"renewed federation."

perestroika, the party was to be opposed to the treaty in its prehis main vehicle of implementig sent form - even in conservative

that despite the pre-eminence of

state rather than Communist Par-

ty institutions after five years of

Betraying socialism, he said, territory by force, should rally ranks to counter what they

see as an extension of the

North-South conflict, pitting

the developed countries

against the developing nations in global economy and politics. Many non-aligned countries

have lamented the absence of a concrete Third World move through the Non-Aligned Movement to resolve the Gulf crisis. Yugoslavia is the current chairman of the movement, and on several occasions during his visit here last month Ortega implicitly criticised Belgrade for what he described as its lukewarm

approach to Gulf mediation

efforts. "For all practical purposes, what Ortega is trying to do represents the missing Third World effort," said an Asian diplomat here. "He is supported by several major nonaligned countries in his endeavours," he added.

(Continued from page 1)

more than 12,000 Palestinians had been held in "administrative detention" since the start of the oprising.

Those held under the system

to freedom of expression and association."

Amnesty

The report also charged that

are often not informed of charges

'They are detained only for the non-violent exercise of their right

under it.

detention centres. The methods included burning

visit him on Oct. 29 had been beaten but chest and head. chest and head.

the Middle East area.

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Intifada

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He lives in airplanes too

ROME — He bears a striking resemblance to his older, more famous brother. Fathi Arafat has the same lips, the same eyes, even the same halfshaved chin as Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestinian parliament in exile, and PLO delegate to the World Health Organisation, Fathi Arafat is also involved in politics. But he is first and foremost a doctor, he says, and as such he is frightened and appalled by the prospect of more fighting in the Middle East.

"As a physician I have seen many wars, and many deaths and injuries caused by them," said Dr. Arafat. "I was in the siege of Lebanon for three months, and I saw some terrible things. That's why I have come here to Rome, to convince people that we must protect the world from nuclear

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians said Jabalya re-

fugee camp, where the intifada

erupted on Dec. 9, 1987, after

four Arabs were killed in a crash

with an Israeli lorry, looked like a

"It seems like all 1.75 Palesti-

nians in the territories are in-

doors. There is no action," a

Palestinian source told Reuters.

He said a military curfew on

almost the entire strip had kept a

The Popular Front for the Li-

lid on the occupied territories.

beration of Palestine (PFLP) and

Liberation of Palestine (DFLP)

issued leaflets calling for attacks

"The cycle of violence will not

stop except by restoration of

rights," the PFLP leastet said. It

praised recent Palestinian guerril-

la attacks near the Israeli border

The U.N. Security Council was

expected to vote Saturday on a

resolution critical of Israel's treat-

ment of Palestinians, but the Un-

ited States risks offending

friends, including its Gulf allies,

After delays throughout the

week council President Abdalla

Al Ashtal scheduled a formal

thereby forcing Washington to

line up for or against a controver-

sial peace conference on the Mid-

As one of the four sponsors of

the resolution on the protection

of Palestinians in the Israeli-

occupied territories, Ashtal, the

Yemeni delegate, is anxious for a

vote — even if it draws a U.S.

The resolution's other sponsors

are Colombia, Cuba and

Friday Ashtal said there was little

room for compromise on the

draft, which is expected to be

endorsed by all other members of

Nevertheless, Malaysian

Ambassador Ismail Razail, chief

negotiator for the sponsors, held

last-minute talks with U.S.

ambassador Thomas Pickering to

The main stumbling block is a

provision for the council to con-

sider an international peace con-

ference on the Middle East, an

initiative strongly opposed by

Although the text reflects the

official U.S. position and leaves

the 15-nation council.

reach a solution.

Malaysia.

meeting for 5 p.m. (2200 GMT),

no matter what it does.

and inside the Jewish state.

on Israeli targets.

for the entire world." said Dr. the date and structure of such a meeting vague, the very mention of it has become a symbol of a

war and weapons of mass des-

nian branch of International

Physicians for the Prevention

of Nuclear War (IPPNW), Dr.

Arafat took part in recent

meetings in Italy that focused

on the Gulf crisis. He was also

a member of an IPPNW de-

legation that visited the Iraqi

and U.S. embassies in Rome to

urge the two countries not to

use chemical, biological or

nuclear weapons in the con-

flict. In the three days of talks,

this 57-year-old doctor shared

the podium with Israeli physi-

cian Hillel Shanker, a man who

is his enemy but who is also his

atomic or not, would be a

disaster for the Gulf, for the

whole of the Middle East and

"Any kind of war, whether

As president of the Palesti-

truction."

colleague.

shift in U.S. policy. Foreigners

(Continued from page 1)

began arriving in Baghdad Satur-The 41 Japanese men who ar-

rived in Amman were accompanied by 64 Japanese women and children and Kanji Inoki, a former sumo wrestler and now member of parliament. They left for Tokyo aboard a chartered Japanese airline Saturday eventhe Democratic Front for the

> In Caracas, President George Bush said Saturday he was pleased with Baghdad's pledge to release all foreigners but did not feel it brought closer a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

> "I want a peaceful solution," Bush told reporters here. "I don't feel we are closer to a peaceful solution."

> Bush seemed to imply that Friday's decision to withdraw the staff from the beleaguered U.S. embassy in Kuwait after all foreigners are sent home was intended to make even easier a decision to use force against Iraq if it fails to withdraw from Kuwait.

> "I think you can make the case that this facilitates the tough decisions that might lie ahead," he said of the decision to evacuate

> the Kuwait embassy. Bush, on a South American tour, was asked to elaborate on this remark. He replied: "I just mean that when you don't have Americans there, and if force is required, that's just one less worry I've got."

The president was in Venezuela on the final leg of a fivenation goodwill tour of South America. In conversations with reporters

Bush said he remained pessimistic about an end to the crisis simply because Iraq had not yet

agree to leave Kuwait. "Saddam Hussein continues insisting that Kuwait is a province of Iraq and that he will not get out of Kuwait, and that is the fundamental point around which the whole world is united against

him." Bush said. "I'm glad the hostages are coming home. They never should Kuwait to come out and begin have been taken in the first place," the U.S. president said.

"When you kidnap somebody you should not expect a reward when you let the person go." In response to a reporters' Arafat, "It would be a catastrophe. We already have so many problems in the area."

Born in Jerusalem, one of 10 brothers and sisters, Fathi Arafat studied medicine and graduated in 1950 from Cairo's famous Kasr El-Aini teaching hopital. He specialised as a pediatrician and worked for five years in a Kuwait hospital, but these days he no longer practices medicine. As president of the Palestine Red Crescent Organisation, Dr. Arafat represents 15,000 Palestinian doctors and is in charge of providing health care for his people, whether they are in the Israeli occupied territories or in Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia or

"Our Organisation is responsible for the care of Palestinians everywhere," be said. "We are like the ministry

question. Bush flatly denied that

the decision to take the staff out

of the Kuwait embassy was "a

payback" for the Iragi decision to

"It is no payback," he said.

He said that when all the U.S.

nationals held in Kuwait had

been freed by Baghdad there

would no longer be any reason to

Bush made the comments in a

joint news conference with Vene-

zuela's President Carlos Andres

Perez, before speaking to a hun-

Bush told Perez, "good

answer," when Perez told the

reporters that as a small country

Venezuela cannot accept the in-

vasion of one country by another.

He congratulated Bush for his

with Iraq.

"prudent decision" to open talks

Bush has said those talks will

not be a negotiation, but are

intended only to reinforce in per-

son the U.N. demand that Iraq

its increase in oil production in

the face of the cut off from Iraq

and Knwait, said there is no

worldwide shortage of oil despite

He blamed the price surge on

Bush in his subsequent lun-

"paper barrels of oil" being man-

ipulated by international futures

cheon remarks said Iraq

"threatens the world's economy

Speaking to the Venezuelan-

American Chamber of Com-

merce. Bush said that Venezuela,

a key hemispheric oil producer

has shown "magnificent lead-

ership" in the aftermath of the

sponsibly in denouncing Iraq's

conquest of Kuwait in the United

has increased oil output since the

Gulf crisis erupted last August.

war in the Gulf remains strong,

even though Iraq's decision to

release all American and other

foreigners is a step forward, his

The British government Satur-

The British message was

broadcast on the BBC World

Service about 3 p.m. local time

day advised its citizens hiding in

packing to go home, the Foreign

Nations." Bush said.

spokesman says.

Office said.

(1200 GMT).

"You acted resolutely and re-

Among other steps, Venezuela

Bush believes that the threat of

through economic blackmail.'

Bush, praising Venezuela for

withdraw from Kuwait.

the increasing prices.

markets.

Gulf crisis.

cheon of the business leaders.

keep the embassy open.

free the foreigners.

of public health in any other country, so we are responsible for primary and secondaryhealth care, hospitals, rehabilitation...We have many difficulties. One of the main ones is coordination, since half of our people are in the occupied territories and the other half are scattered everywhere."

Another serious problem he says is the growing number of psychiatric cases among children in the occupied territories as the tension of living in a war zone takes its toll. "We are facing a very big mental health problem. Many fact-finding missions have acknowledged this and written reports on it," he said. "It is a very dangerous state of affairs not just for the Palestinians but for the whole

Dr. Arafat spends much of his time travelling between



Fathi Arafat

Tunis, Cairo, Athens and Geneva. "I have no home," he said as he left for the Swiss capital to attend a WHO meeting. "I live in airplanes."

LETTERS

A plea to help To the Editor:

I am an Australian engineer who is at present in Jordan hoping to get to Iraq to contribute towards peace in the Gulf and the Middle East. I am here at my own expense.

Three months ago I wrote to the Iraqi government requesting permission to enter Iraq and suggested some effective peace moves. Since that time I have also written to President Saddam Hussein along the same lines. Recently I also sent the president a personal telegram requesting the opportunity of contributing, with other "peace people" in Iraq, towards the common goal of preventing war.

President Hussein has obviously not received any of my correspondence as I would not still be refused entry into Iraq after five weeks of waiting for a visa in Amman.

My efforts have no doubt been hampered by some government official in Baghdad and I believe those efforts have been undermined by the Australian government whose policies towards the Arab peoples I have strongly and publicly criticised. In my correspondence with the Iraqis, I suggested a number of initiatives towards achieving peace in the region. These are:

- To hold a massive and effective peace rally in Baghdad during Baker's (U.S. Secretary of State) intended visit. This rally could include all the foreign "peace activists" now in Baghdad. — To organise an effective demonstration by the foreign "peace activists" on the Kuwait/Saudi border to confront the U.S. and British forces.

— To encourage hostages/guests in Iraq and Kuwait to offer themselves to stay and help with the peace movement. I would personally ask Australians to participate in that role.

- To ask hostages/guests to make personal appeals for peace to their respective countries. This has not been done and could be quite effective using television.

— To reveal on television the serious effects that the sanctions and blockade are having on the children of Iraq. This nightmare for children and families is like Vietnam and Cambodia all over again and ironically it follows just one month after the United Nations got together and vowed: to help save and protect the children of the world.

It should be emphasised that the children of Iraq are just as beautiful as the children of America, Britain and Australia (or any other place) and should be protected from the stupidity and borrors of war.

The Arabs should be aware that the Australian government's aggressive policy against Iraq and others in this area is not supported by thinking Australians who want a peaceful end to the present confrontation and (in particular) to the holocaust being imposed by Israel on the Palestinians.

Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister has neither the courage nor initiative to oppose the policies of Bush, Baker, Thatcher and Major (and others, including Israel's Zionist supporters) who are determined, for numerous reasons, that the Arab nations be

economically and militarily weak. It is clear (there is no doubt) that the destiny and well-being of the Arab nations (and the rest of the world) will be determined by

the outcome of this present Gulf crisis. It is vital that the forces of peace, tolerance and goodwill win this struggle against the policies of those who currently oppose Irao and the Palestinians.

I would just like to add that there are not too many non-Arabs willing to enter Iraq at this time of impending war. Most are clamouring in fear to get out. This being the case, I am wondering why the Iraqi government has so far refrained from approving my application for a visa for me to enter Iraq so that I can play a role with others to help achieve peace. I was hoping to return to Australia by the New Year and certainly before I "go broke." John (Jack) King

clo Siveen Hotel Jabal Al Hussein Amman

Voice of America

By Norman Kempster

WITH HER thick Alabama drawl and halting speech, she still seems miscast as the front-line spokeswoman for President Bush's foreign policy. But as the world hovers on the brink of war. Margaret Turwiler has become the indispensable sound "bite" on the evening news, the woman who articulate the government's intention to a nervous nation.

As the State Department's chief spokesperson, Tutwiler presides over briefings for reporters that (in theory, at least) provide a daily update on U.S. foreign policy. The briefings are also the primary forum by which Washington sends sometimes subtle signals to friend and foe

To the uninitiated, the job may seem ridiculously easy. It consists mainly of reading statements. mostly prepared in advance by someone else, in response to questions from reporters. Frequently, she simply refuses to comment: "I have nothing more on that for you," Tutwiler is wont to say.

But in the high-stakes game of international diplomacy, a single misstep by Tutwiler can send a dangerously incorrect message that the government can never fully withdraw. For that reason, the post has always been a highstress job. Tutwiler says that she found it terrifying at first.

Reporters who have watched Tutwiler since her debut in 1989 (when she candidly said, "I am not, and do not claim to be, an expert in foreign policy") agree that her performance at the daily briefing has improved markedly, though it remains somewhat ragged. Her lilting accent and her occasional mispronunciations sometimes erode her presenta-

But there's no doubt that she has mastered other aspects of the job that often have eluded her predecessor, even those who were steeped in the lore of diplomacy. Most important, Tutwiler is a thoroughgoing expert on Secretary of State James A. Baker. One of the balf-dozen aides who are in the secretary's all-important inner circle, Tutwiler tells the public what Baker is thinking — and other tells Baker what the public is thinking in

"She has a sense of what Bakeris doing, thinking or about to do," and "when she is permitted Anderson, a correspondent for sometimes finds it difficult to more than Baker wants her to. UPI who has been covering the make the sort of gesture that Some spokesmen suffered from department for 21 years. "Because the State Department is run by that inner circle of Baker and six or seven others this is an invaluable source of information."

"Her weak point is that her institutional memory doesn't go back before 1989; anything prior to that is just a black hole." Anderson said, "I wouldn't put her as the very best, but I would put her toward the high end of the scale, although in the beginning I wouldn't have rated her that highly."

source of information for the public. She also serves as a political early-warning system for Baker. One of her jobs is to spot potential flaps before they start and head them off before they can do damage.

being able to catch the drift of the was chief spokesperson for the foreign policy." - Los Angeles way the press is going," said a Department of the Treasury Times.



State Department official who watches her closely. "She can tell when something is about to become a major issue. She has a very good sense of what will play in Peoria. She can predict how a policy will paly in different parts of the U.S. and deal with that from a public relations standpoint. This is one of her great values to Baker."

At first glance, it seems absurd that Baker, a seasoned political operative who was Bush's campaign manager, would need such help. But for all his wanted to keep it secret.

Some of Tutwiler's predecessors apparently had a much broader mandate than she seems to have when it comes to telling the public about the inner workings of the State Department. These predecessors often "covered" the department as if they were reporters trying to ferret out

when Baker was secretary.

information from the bureaucracy. The ressult was sometimes a tense rivalry between spokesmen who wanted to get information out and other officials who

"Her weak point is that her institutional memory doesn't go back before 1989; anything prior to that is just a black hole," Anderson said. "I wouldn't put her as the very best, but I would put her toward the high end of the scale, although in the beginning I wouldn't have rated her that highly."

to, she expresses that," says Jim political acumen, the secretary comes as second nature to politi- divided loyalties - to the secretcians around the country.

> Soweto in South Africa, he at trying to do both (serve the full of photogenic kindergarten never lose sight of the fact that conversation with Tutwiler.

Tutwiler was born in Birming- secretary." ham, Alabama, in 1950, the heiress to fortunes in coal and But Tutwiler is more than a And, since 1976, whe she work- quickly. ed on the re-election campaign of worked with and for Baker. She was in the Baker-managed Bush

Tutwiler is careful to say no ary of state and to the public's For example, when Baker right to know. Tutwiler has no toured the black township of such dilemma. "I work very hard seemed oblivious to a schoolyard public and the department). But I children - until after a quiet my first and foremost loyalty must be to the president and the

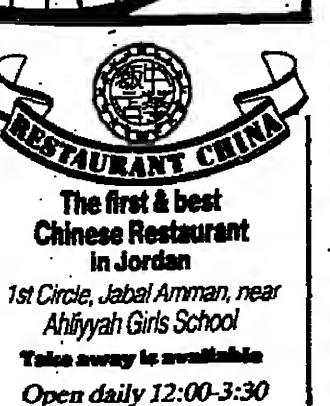
She admits that some of her earliest briefings were painful. At steel. Since her graduation from the start, some aspects of policy the University of Alabama, she that were well-known to her audihas been immersed in politics, ence of reporters were total mysusually working 14-hour days, teries to her. But she has learned "It was terrifying," she said.

President Ford, Turwiler has "On a very steep learning curve, I had to learn all at once under a very sensitive microscope." She's campaigns in 1980 and 1988. She a lot more confident now. She was on former President said she has finally come to real-Reagan's White House staff when ise that "no one is humanly cap-"She is extremely good at Baker was chief of staff and she able of learning every nuance of

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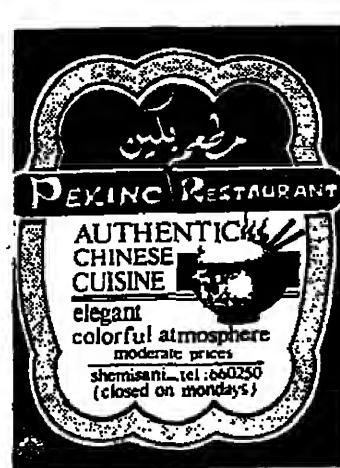
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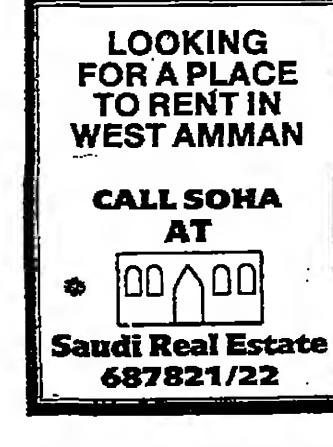
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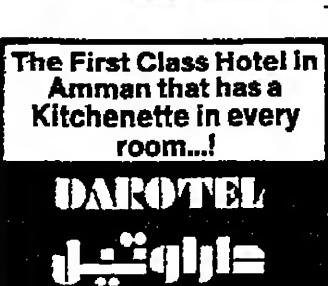
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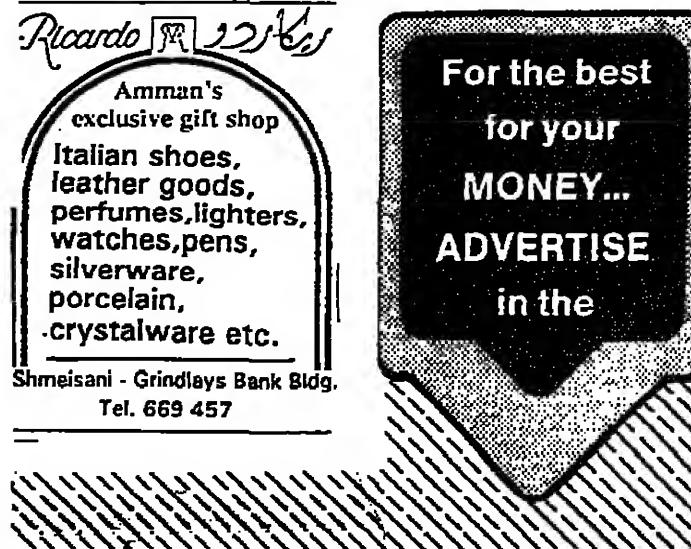
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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Soviet sport struggles in new wave of perestroika

MOSCOW (R) - Soviet sport, once the symbol of the country's political strength, is falling apart after shaking off years of ideologically-motivated state con-

The launch of President Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroika" reforms in March 1985 abruptly halted the Kremlin's use of sport as a tool to prove the superiority of Socialist thinking.

Now, with Soiviet society convulsed by rapid political change and plummeting living standards. the outlook is bleak.

Sports facilities for young people are a rarity in run-down suburbs and the standard of physical fitness is low among most Russians. Even top matches in the country's most popular sports, ice hockey and soccer, draw unimpressive crowds.

Talented sportsmen, previously cosseted as the darlings of the state and rewarded with privileges and decorations, now look West in the hope of earning much-needed hard currency.

Many, in their eagerness to escape foundering national leagues keen to turn a profit. bypass the State Sports Committee (Goskomsport) altogether, depriving it of currency earnings.

Soviet fans and officials alike wonder whether the country will ever again produce stars comparable to gymnast Olga Korbut, footballer Lev Yashin or pole vaulter Sergei Bubka.

Leonid Drachevsky, first depu-

FRANKFURT (R) - In the

modern sports world, tennis is no

longer just about Andre Agassi

Lendl winning another title. Ten-

Recognising this fact, earnest

young executives with smart suits

and sharp business brains have

been busy this year moulding the

men's tennis circuit into a slick

operation fuelled by the power of

the dollar as much as by the

tion of Tennis Professionals

(ATP) took control, chief execu-

tive officer Mark-Miles feels the

Miles, a bespectacled, besuited

American with the manner of a

successful courtroom lawyer, said

at the weekend: "I believe that

the tour is better in every respect

the move to seize control of the

circuit, declared themselves hap-

py, on the whole, with the ATP

year when they gathered in

Frankfurt last week for the world

rise in prize money for the top

200 players, 16 per cent more

spectators than last year and the

strongest entry for 10 years at

business, with dozens of sponsors

providing the bulk of the money

and plush hospitality boxes

occupying the best vantage points

The ATP coup was staged pri-

marily to give players more say in

The tour is run like a giant

most tournaments, Miles said.

There has been a 46 per cent

The top players, who initiated

figures speak for themselves.

In the year since the Associa-

nis is about money.

power of the player.

than in 1989."

championship.

at most events.

beating Stefan Edberg or Ivan - the tour was administered jointly

ty chairman of the once allpowerful Goskomsport, told Reuters in an interview that the Soviet Union might even cease to

be a sports superpower. Asked about the prospects of future showdowns between athletes from the United States. Soviet Union and a newly-united Germany, he said: "If there is anyone to drop out it could only be us if we are deprived of public, state and legal support."

The integrity of sport has been further hit by newly-aroused nationalism among the country's disparate republics.

The same tensions that have threatened the Soviet Union with political disintegration have taken their toll on the soccer pitches and basketball courts, with teams from Lithuania and Georgia opting out of countrywide championships.

Doping has caused more harm - especially in weightlifting, bodybuilding, track and field, rowing and cycling.

In the first eight months of the year 33 athletes tested positive. A senior doping-control expert admitted that punitive measures were ineffective as it was impossible to test everyone. The sports structure is now being forced to undergo change from top to bot-

tom in the struggle to survive. National federations, once given only token powers, are to have the right to represent their sport fully at home and abroad. Authorities in the republics will

the running of their working

by the International Tennis Fed-

eration (MF), the tournament

organisers and player representa-

tives, players complained of

spending too much time on the

money and introduced a six-week

break after the November world

doubles championship in Austra-

But, ironically, all but a few

have chosen to sign up for the

\$6-million Grand Slam Cup, a

new event set up by the ITF and

Grand: Siam organisers, in De-

cember, rather than enjoy the full

After some animosity between

the ITF and the ATP at the start.

relations had settled down to

mutual mild dislike until Agassi

reopened the wound with his

announcement that he was pull-

ing out of the Grand Slam Cup

despite already having signed a

he had been put under pressure

by the ATP and said his gesture,

which could cost him suspension

from any or all of the 1991 Grand

Slams, was a mark of respect for

sion last week on the minimum

number of tournaments they

play only 10 events instead of 11

From now on, those who reach the world championship need

The top players won a conces-

the players' association.

must play each year.

in the following year.

Agassi ignored suggestions that

contract to play.

lia to give players a holiday.

The ATP increased prize

Under the old system, where

ATP recognises player, dollar power

also have more say. The regid ideological control - once under a special department of the Communist Party

Central Committee — is gone. "They used to issue political instructions for the Soviet representatives in international sports federations - how to vote, what to say, especially on 'sensitive' issues," recalled one ex-

employee of Goskomsport.

Drachevsky, a former athlete, said such blatant interference had had little direct effect on athletes and their coaches. But he insisted that sport and politics had to be kept apart.

"It is bad when politicians use sport," he said. "Of course there was pressure on sport from politicians. And the more totalitarian the state was, the greater the pressure."

Drachevsky said Western politicians were now exploiting sport more than those in the Kremlin but he lamented indifference among Soviet public figures.

"I cannot say that there is great attention paid to sport here," he said. "It used to be great... but I personally think that in the official press, in official politics, sport occupies a much smaller place than in the West."

Drachevsky said his committee was trying to get the Georgians and Lithuanians back into the fold despite resistance from local nationalists he said were pursuing political aims.

The ATP may well think about

acting on two other suggestions

made in Frankfurt, namely more

ranking points for the Grand

Slam events and variety in the

choice of surface for the cham-

surfaces of the Grand Slams,

semifinals to Edberg.

"We should repeat the four

said Lendl, who lost in Saturday's

"A different surface every year

would be fair for everyone," said

Ecuador's Andres Gomez who

won the French Open on clay this

year but failed to win a match on

Frankfurt's indoor fast carpet

points were awarded at the

season-ending championship —

formerly the New York Masters

- ensuring the fight to be num-

ber one continued right up to

when Edberg put himself in an

The ATP has imitated sports

like Formula One motor racing in

introducing a points system

where only the best performances

each year — 14 in the case of

tennis -- count towards a player's

total, regardless of how many

has also drawn on the experience

of the Professional Golfers' Asso-

ciation (PGA), based in Florida

Miles admits the association

unbeatable position.

tournaments be enters.

like the ATP.

For the first time, ranking, or

pionship.

"Radical organisations and their leaders use sport to the full. The best example is Georgian soccer," he said.

For some athletes, sport has bengboard into the country's new multi-party politics.

Flamboyant world chess champion Garry Kasparov is a leading figure in the Democratic Party of Russia, which openly displays its anti-Communist outlook. . A bemused Soviet public has

watched nearly a decade of struggle on and off the chessboard between the outspoken Kasparov and conformist Anatoly Karpov. an unswerving ally of the hidebound Goskomsport hierarchy.

But perhaps the greatest problem to be overcome in reviving national sport is the public's general apathy.

Some experts blame the onslaught of television. Others cite the exploding popularity of video recorders, although they are still scarce, or the attraction of discotheques.

But the most likely explanation lies in the daily grind of Soviet life where initiative and inspiration are stifled by the struggle to scrape together the most basic necessities.

"How can you expect me to go to a stadium when all my free time is spent hunting for something to eat, drink and wear?" said Mikhail, one Muscovite who has long given up his season tickets for the capital's Spartak Soccer Club.

Charity work has become an

integral part of the tour with

world championship runner-up

Edberg appointed chairman of an

A slide show of the year's

highlights, given for the press in

Frankfurt, included shots of play-

ers grouped around the hospital

From this year, all new players on

the tour have to attend a three-

day ATP course teaching them

how to cope with all aspects of

life in professional tennis, from

money-management to dealing

pions Agassi both said they we're

impressed with the ATP's debut

good," the Swede said. "Of

course there is 100m for improve-

ment. You can always make the

tour work better. I think the end

product is going to be very

to making things better," Agassi

has increased the prize money.

The increase spreads out among

But Austrian Thomas Muster,

knocked out in the group stage in

Frankfurt, was not so com-

all the different levels."

plimentary.

"I appreciate their dedication

"It is important that the ATP

Edberg and new world cham-

"I think it has been quite

official programme.

beds of young fans.

with the media.



Andre Agassi

A 11

Agassi disciplines talent

Agassi's unconventional clothes, hairstyle and off-court diplomacy may still be on the wild side. But the 20-vear-old American has proved that he has finally harnessed his tennis talent.

After losing the French and U.S. Open finals this year, the flamboyant American achieved the greatest triumph of his career when he defeated Sweden's world number one Stefan Edberg 5-7. 7-6, 7-5, 6-2 in the ATP World Championship final.

After convincingly beating Pete Sampras, his conqueror in the U.S. Open, and German world number two Boris Becker to reach the final, Agassi seemed at last to have discovered the self-discipline to exploit his talent.

"After the U.S. Open defeat I took a strategic look at my career. I set new goals and realised I needed to improve my physical shape to be more effective." he said. "This victory symbolises the work I have put in in

Since his rapid rise to number three in the world in 1988 — he is now fourth - Agassi has often been at the centre of controversy.

the last year."

His long, straggly hair and fluorescent kit — he sported bright green cycling pants under black denim shorts during the week — have not been to the taste of some tennis conserva-

The Las Vegas-based player attracted more criticism in the week by pulling out of next month's Grand Slam Cup in Munich, a decision which could result in a \$25,000 fine and a ban from one or more of next year's Grand Slam tournaments. But Agassi has recently revolu-

tionised his attitude to the game itself. After relying on raw talent to fire his initial rise to the top echelons of the game, his superb form in Frankfurt was based on newly-found self-discipline and hard work.

"I was number three in the world in 1988 but I didn't practise a lot," Agassi said. "I was blessed with talent but then I realised that I should try to work more and see how far I could go."

Since his defeat in straight sets by compatriot Sampras at Flushing Meadow last September

FRANKFURT (R) - Andre Agassi has worked hard on his serve, which proved to be a major weapon against the seven other top players in the world in Frank-

A new programme of weight and fitness training, which he began at the start of the year, has also helped the American gain nine kilogrammes and tune his strength and stamina.

"It was a question of buckets of serves...but I have got stronger from the weights and have worked harder on my quickness," he

The irony, however, is that the new-look Agassi may be missing from one or more of next year's prestigious Grand Slam tournaments if the International Tennis Federation (ITF) decides next month to ban him because of his late withdrawal from the \$6million Grand Slam Cup.

After signing a contract to play in Munich, Agassi changed his mind because he felt the lucrative event was aimed at undermining the season-ending Frankfurt tournament, which is run by the tour's new organisers, the Association of Tennis Professionals

The decision to opt out of a legally-binding contract has been criticised by other leading players including Edberg and world number three Ivan Lendl who say he should have stuck with the commitment. This indecision off-court con-

trasts greatly with the American's new single-minded professionalism regarding his playing future. In a sport in which very few blayers look ahead more than a few weeks or months. Agassi has clear, long-term ideas of when he will be able to produce his best

"I feel that I am capable of winning one or two Slams next year but I am focusing on 1992,"

"I do not look at 1992 as a set year but hope all the pieces will fit together then. I may then be able to play some of the best

tennis that can be played." "I will always take the French and U.S. Open defeats to my grave," he said. "But there is no question, winning here and winning the Davis Oup would send me into next year with a new purpose."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 9, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have a fine chance to gain the good-will and active assistance of some reasonably influential persons who can offer you the element of protection you are seeking.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can go forward and meet those interesting contacts you have anticipated knowing. Take your family with you to enjoy some public events.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You and your mate will enjoy some outside entertainment or recreation. Discuss longtime desires for going to a resort with a good

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A trip to see close companions with good friends brings happiness to all involved. Be with your attachment as much as you are able. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You need some fresh nev inspiration to impress your attachment. Budget your assets so that you have more in case of an emergency. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your

excitement with your activities should produce beneficial results. Combine usual pleasures with some persons you have just for your enjoyment.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't let a past mistake interfere with harmony with your

attachment. Accept help from a progressive friend with daily

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Accompanying your attachment to recreations will bring you new romance. Let fellow associates be more aware how much you.

enjoy being with them. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Do something dramatic to please one from a distance visiting in your home. Being with congenial friends at quiet pleasures dolights mate.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Now you can make good friends with persons in places of importance. A trip with your mate is fine if carefully planned.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A new procedure on 1 your regular business arangement will bring good results. Be very tender and romantic with your mate today.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Invite those into your home that you have a strong desire to enjoy a pleasant time. Get out in. the world of action and be with

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Delightful outside contacts should be entertained as guests in your bome. Do something for your mate that will awaken romantic

By Harris THE BETTER HALF. HARRIS 11-6

"I put a few drops of motor oil on the pizza so the cheese won't stick to our arteries."

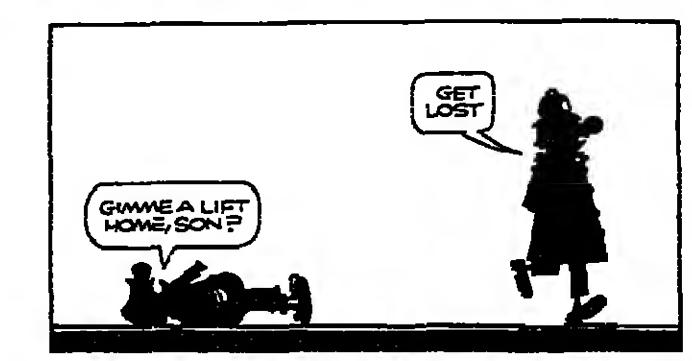
JUMBILE THATESCRAMBLED WORD GAME Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. HORAB **CUFOS ASHRIP** SHE KNEW HER HUSBAND LIKE A BOOK---KLAYEC Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday) Jumbles: EPOCH AFTER FASTEN MALICE Answer: A self-indulgent guy never does this-

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp







Peanuts







GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

1399 Intime Media Screees, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ Q.1-Neither suinerable, as South

you hold: `AJ93 K843 **⊕**KJ North East South Pass 2 + What action do you take? A .- This is alone between a pass and a takeout doable-ue feel you do not have enough playing tricks for two no trump, assuming you play that as natural. We hate to be shut

hand at the table, so we slightly favor a takeout double. Q.2—East-West insinerable, as South you hold: 4 Void 7 AKQ54 . J876 4J752 The bidding has proceeded: East South West North

out of the auction with the best

1 + Dbi Pass 3 🏚 What action do you take? A .- You have excellent hearts for partner, but a dead minumum double and a fistful of losers. Pass—the auction is not over. Partner has an-

other turn and might be able to act Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you

♦ KQ37652 78 55 **♦ K854** As dealer, what action do you take? A.—We are of the old school. We can expect the spades to produce six tricks and the clubs one plus. That brings the total to seven and, at this vulnerablity, an opening bid of three spades looks just right.

0.4—As South, vulnerable, you **♦1052** 78 ∴ **K8753 ♦9874** The bidding has proceeded:

East North South Rdbl Dbl

What action do you take? A.—Don't pass just to tell partner you have very little-he knows that from the auction. However, there is good reason to bid one diamond. If you don't, partner might escape to one heart and you'll be forced to correct to two diamonds, at which point the enemy might start

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: **16 TA84 : Q1095 4 KQJ63** Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What

action do you take? -We do not like making a takeout double of one spade when holding only three cards in hearts, but your hand is too good to pass. Therefore, we choose the lesser of evils and would overcall two clubs. even though we would have pre-

ferred a sixth card in the suit.

North East South West

Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you ◆AJ2 776 0953 ◆AJ872 The hidding has proceeded:

17 14 What do you bid now? A .- If you could be 100 percent sure you have two spade stoppers, you would just about have enough to make a non-forcing jump to two no trump. Since that is by no means certain, we prefer the mild underbid of one no trump.





THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington **ACROSS** Betray 5 Big band instruments 10 Knile 14 Ersatz butter 15 Severe 16 Epidermai opening 17 Unintoxicated 20 Churchman 21 Abandon 22 Shade trees 24 Cage for hawks 25 Broad sword: 28 Three in Naples 30 Tasty 35 Poet's initials 36 Scanned again 39 Masquerade 40 Unrestrained 43 Squawk 44 God of agriculture 45 Ruminant © 1990 Tribuna Madia Services, Inc. feature 46 Expensive Yesterday's Puzzla Solvad: 48 Scratch 9 Dishonor CAST RERA ADAGE OVER AWED GAGED 49 Residue 10 Arete 51 Asner and 11 Auckus DELLA HEADSTRONG ARMINARM POPERER STARE GAR Heslity 12 Jason's ship 53 Nobleman 13 Hes--55 IndistInct 59 Epidemic 18 Short Jacket 19 Snark film 63 Besotted 23 Creeks 67 Printer's

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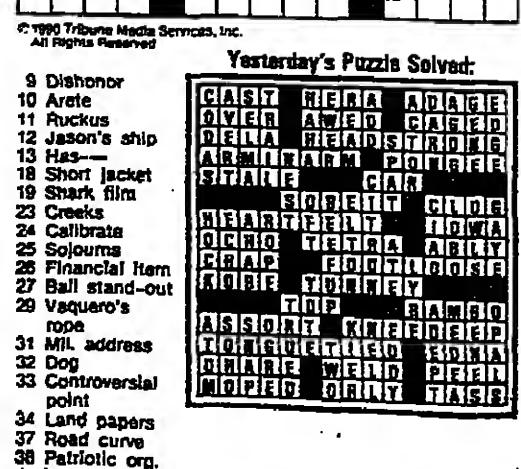
BCfOnym

7 Bikini top

69 Mr. Wiesel

68 Avid

71 Emina



DHARE WELD PEEL MOPED ORLY TASS 42 Knots 55 Dado holder 47 inca country 56 WW II craft 62 Scratches out 50 Quanches 57 Elyslum 84 Krazy -52 Units of force 58 A Johnson

65 Gone by 54 To one side 60 Molding 68 Red or Dead

Les partis politiques en Jordant la légalisation En attendant la légalisation entende l'ouléurs on lise une page

gent à présent, structurellement faibles et intérieurement divisés. L'évolution sociale profonde des années qui ont suivi la guerre de 1967 ainsi que Our revealed l'influence du système «néopatriarchab» qui caractépatriates men rise la société jordanienne ont été les principales for an Arabites partis politiques contemporains. Contrairement Day the top any autres partis, les mouvements islamistes ont the expansive acquis une puissance grandissante et incarment les the expanier acquis une puissance grande de la société jordaniendue to its its ite. ith their fame

«Il mène une vie contemporne (c'est à dire moderne). Il rom Ruwan seit anx lois civiles et pénales national prop one l'origine est occidentale; il rdan complexe a ssocié à un grand complexe elay in recoi : transactions sociales et éconoalised countries.

and its people

dy course its

pe,

miques dont il ne sait pas bien si elles sont conformes ou contraires à sa soi islamique. La vie l'emporte dans son courant, lui faisant oublier tous ses soupçous pour un temps, jusqu'à ce qu'il

de Suleiman Sweiss

SEMAINE...

Intifada: notre grandeur Au lendemain du roisième anniversaire de Intifada, le peuple palestiien semble plus déterminé qu'avant à atteindre ses obectifs nationaux. Certes, il n'a pas encore chassé les occupants israéliens de son pays, mais les réalisations de l'Intifada sur le terrain sont déjà considérables. Trois ans de combat quotidien ont enrichi les traditions de lutte des peuples pour leur liberté et leur indépendance, non seulement dans la région mais dans le monde entier.



Souvenous-nous: les Palestiniens ont déclenché leur Intifada dans des circonstances arabes et internationales défavorables à leur lutte. Le sommet arabe d'Amman (en novembre 1987), qui considérait le conflit Iran-Irak -et non Palestine-Israël- comme le plus important, venait juste de terminer ses travaux. La nouvelle conception de la «Perestroika» concernant les relations internationales, ajoutée aux vagues d'immigration des Juiss soviétiques en Palestine n'étaient pas des développements de nature à aider la lutte palestinienne et l'OLP, bien au contraire.

Néanmoins, au fil des mois, l'Intifada a réussi à réimposer la cause palestinienne avec acuité sur la scène politique internationale; elle a inspiré, peut-être même provoqué, la décision jordanienne de dissociation avec la Cisjordanie en juillet 1988 et elle a obligé Israči à séparer de nouveau les territoires occupés en 1967 de ceux occupés en 1948; n'oublions pas que le gouvernement de coalition «Likoud-travaillistes» a été secoué par l'Intifada.

Tout l'appareil israélien de répression n'a pas réussi à infléchir la volonté du peuple courageux de Palestine. Le prix qu'il a payé depuis le 9 décembre 1987 jusqu'à ce jour your arracher sa liberté est déjà très élevé: 1.300 héros, 00.000 blessés et handicapés, 5.000 femmes ayant avorté à ause des gaz et de la brutalité des soldats israéliens. 12.000 tenus, 1.859 maisons démolies, 61 militants expulsés hors s territoires palestiniens, fermeture des universités et des ples la plus part du temps, déracinement de dizaines de lliers d'arbres. Sans parler des innombrables méthodes lisées par les autorités israéliennes pour encercler les lestiniens et réduire leur résistance au silence.

Si l'Intifada dure depuis le 9 décembre 1987, c'est grâce ox structures politiques, économiques, sociales voire ychologiques solides que le peuple palestinien a mis en ace dans les territoires occupés depuis de longues années. ertaines régions y sont déjà interdites aux soldats aéliens. Ceux-ci ne peuvent pénétrer dans les ruelles que some leurs patrouilles sont bien armées et protégées de t'enforts. la population s'abstient de plus en plus de payer les impôts on de respecter les ordres fréquents de couvresen. Récemment, la Direction Unifiée de l'Intifada a appelé à l'utilisation de «tous les moyens» pour résister aux occupants. Le recours aux armes blanches est devenu plus fréquent ces derniers temps.

Jamais un Etat, à part Israël et l'Afrique du sud, n'a été condamné par un aussi grand nombre de résolutions de l'ONU pour sa politique répressive. Et pourtant bien des Etats du monde dit «libre» ne font rien contre les crimes israéliens à l'égard des Palestiniens et se contentent de condamnations du bout des lèvres.

L'Intifada est notre grandeur, notre présent et notre avenir, à nous les peuples arabes. La soutenir, c'est également évoquer ses problèmes en ce troisième anniversaire. Il devient urgent de réunir le Conseil Nationil Palestinien (Parlement palstinien) pour définir la ligne politique à suivre à la lumière des développements imporants qui se sont produits dans la région depuis le 2 août. L'est ce qu'a réclamé d'ailleurs la Direction Unifiée dans son communiqué de la semaine dernière.

En plus du volet politique, il faut mentionner la situation économique précaire dans les territoires occupés. Ceux-ci ont été très touchés par les événements dans le Golfe arabe. Les effets négatifs risquent de s'aggraver dans ces territoires. On se demande pourquoi l'OLP ne réclame pas que la Cisjordanie et Gaza figurent sur la liste des pays qui doivent être indemnisés, à l'instar de la Jordanie, de la Turquie et de l'Egypte.

Enfin, l'ambiance d'ouverture politique qui règne dans le pays devrait nous permettre de développer le soutien populaire à l'Intifada sous de nouvelles formes, plus efficaces. An niveau arabe, la puissance militaire irakienne et la volonté du peuple égyptien de résister à la politique de «Camp David» sont des soutiens précieux, entre autres...

Festivités

Sous le patronage du roi Hussein, le ministère de la Culture jordanien a entamé samedi les journées interulturelles jordano palestiniennes, en coopération avec le épartement culturel de l'OLP.

Les activités de ce festival comportent plusieurs tanifestations littéraires et artistiques. De nombreux oètes, critiques et écrivains, jordaniens et palestiniens, y irticiperont.

51 Single entity
62 Sciences of
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religieuse dans un journal; tous ses doutes ressurgissent alors et le plongent dans l'inquiétude.

«Il comprend ainsi que dans cette société sa personnalité est divisée en deux; en une qui croit, observe le ramadan, prie et accomplit le pélerinage de la Mecque; alors que l'antre anéantit ces valeurs dans les banques, dans les cours et dans les rues, voire an cinéma, an théâtre et peut-être chez lui, avec sa famille devant la télévision.»

Ce portrait type de l'homme arabe, décrit par l'écrivain égyptien Naguib Mahfouz, révèle la contradiction totale qui divise la personnalité arabe entre la modernisation et la tradition: entre l'influence de l'évolution capitaliste rapide et celle de la structure patriarchale de la société arabe. Il explique par conséquent l'absence d'une identité politique indépendante et distincte dans la personnalité jordanienne, et celle d'une action bien organisée des partis politiques.

Les événements d'avril 1989 et les résultats des élections ont reflété l'absence de confiance dans les régimes occidentaux et l'échec de leur introduction dans la société patriarchale. Le recours à la religion était donc la solution la pius «confortable». C'est ainsi que les mouvements islamistes ont connu une progression assez marquée et une influence assez large au sein du peuple jorda-

Le parti communiste jordanien

Premier parti à avoir fait son apparition en Jordanie, en 1951, le parti communiste fut aussi, longtemps, le seul parti bien organisé, autour d'un programme précis destiné essentiellement à réclamer les libertés pour le peuple jordanien. Il avait pour objectif d'adopter de nouvelles stratégies économiques, ainsi que d'annuler le traité britannicojordanien et d'obtenir l'arabisation de l'armée.

Au début, le parti n'était pas légal, mais il a continué à fonctionner de manière semipublique, publiant ses propres journaux et magazines. En 1957, le parti communiste ainsi que les forces nationales ont connu une période de persécution et d'oppression totales.

A présent, les objectifs défendus par le parti sont associés aux libertés démocratiques pour le peuple et visent à trouver une solution à la crise économique actuelle. Le parti entretient des relations de coopération avec toutes les forces et tous les partis politiques du pays, ainsi qu'avec les autres partis communistes, arabes et non arabes.

Le parti baath

En 1955, ce parti fut légalisé par une décision du tribunal de justice, après trois ans de demande. Il a continué à fonctionner publiquement jusqu'à la proclamation d'une décision gouvernementale de dissoudre tous les

partis, en 1957.

Ce parti propose aujourd'hui un programme portant essennellement sur l'unité arabe et la cause palestinienne. An niveau jordanien, il avait pour objectif la libération de la domination britannique sur le pays ainsi que la défense des libertes démocratiques accompagnée de réformes internes.

Le parti a subi plusieurs transformations qui l'ont considérablement affaibli, principalement après la décision de 1957. Pourtant, des essais sérieux d'unifier les groupes baath prennent forme actuellement.

Les frères musulmans

Le mouvement des frères musulmans a été établi originellement en 1928 par Hassan al-Banna en Egypte. Il s'est ensuite répanda dans plusieurs pays rabes, notamment en Jordanie partir de l'année 1945. Abdulatif Abu Qurah a été le premier chef de ce mouvement jusqu'à l'année 1953 où il fut remplacé par Mohammed Abdul Rahman

Khalifeh en 1954. Bien que les leaders de ce mouvement prétendent avoir subi plusieurs tentatives d'oppression et d'emprisonnement, ce mouvement a reçu l'appui du roi Abdallab et il a continué a fonctionner malgré la décision de 1957 de dissoudre les partis politiques.

Les frères musulmans en Jordanie considérent leur mouvement comme une partie indivisible d'un mouvement islamiste qui comprend tous les pays arabes et islamiques. Ils entretiennent des relations de collaboration et de soutien, qu'elles soient économiques, politiques ou autres, avec toutes les organisations islamistes à l'étranger.

Le parti de la libération islamique

Créé au début de l'année 1952 à Jerusalem, ce parti a été le résultat d'une sission au sein du mouvement des frères musulmans dont le leader fut Taqui Eddin al-Nabahani. Sa demande de légalisation fut refusée par le ministère des Affaires Etrangères sous le motif que son programme était contraire à la constitution ordanienne.

Les principes de ce parti se conforment essentiellement à la religion islamique. Ils considèrent que le chef de l'Etat doit être élu par les citoyens. Dès lors qu'ils accèdent au pouvoir, ils considèrent nécessaire d'appliquer les lois islamiques (sharia) dans la société, établissant ainsi l'Etat

Le parti du pemple démocratique fordamien

Ce parti émane en juillet 1989 de l'Organisation du Front Démocratique en Jordanie en tant que parti indépendant suite anx événements d'avril 1989. A l'origine, ce front avait été fondé. en 1974, dans le but d'établir la Jordanie nationale démocratique.

Ce parti se considère comme une partie indivisible du mouvement prolétaire arabe et mondial. Il a pour objectif de renforcer la collaboration entre les groupes de mouvement de libération nationale arabe dans leur lutte contre l'impérialisme et le sionisme. Il défend aussi la libération nationale, la démocratie et le progrès social, ainsi que la construction de l'unité arabe sur les bases de la démocrarie, de l'égalité et d'un choix volontaire et

L'organisation du front populaire en Jordanie

Emergeant du front populaire pour la libération de la palestine (FPLP), cette organisation a été fondée suite aux événements de 1967 qui révélèrent une ambiguité entre l'action palestinienne et celle de la Jordanie. Son but était précisément de faire renaitre la collaboration entre ces deux actions.

L'assemblée démocratique unie

L'idée de former ce parti s'est cristalisée dans les années 1970. Jamal al-Shaer fonda ce mouvement sur les principes du retour à la vie parlementaire et de la conformité de la pensée nationale à l'idée de l'unité arabe.

Ce parti comprend presque 200 adhérents qui sont principalement des professeurs, des fonctionnaires et quelques avocats et intellectuels.

Le front consitutionnel

L'apparition de ce parti remonte à l'année 1975. Un de ses buts principaux réside dans la nécessité de respecter la consitution jordanienne et de mener des efforts pour que les pays d'Al-Sham (la grande Syrie), dont la Jordanie fait partie, soient unis comme une préface à l'unité arabe totale.

Le parti affirme aussi la nécessité d'appliquer la démocratie, ainsi que la préservation de l'identité palestinienne et celle du peuple jordanien. Ils reconnaissent cependant que les deux nations partagent les mêmes responsabilités et les mêmes droits

Le parti progressiste jordanien

Son projet de programme politique of d'organisation interne fut publiés en juillet 1990. La plupart de ses leaders et de ses adhérents sont d'anciens membres du parti communiste jordanien. Ce parti appartient au groupe des partis ос раисле.

Les principaux buts de ce parti sont la démocratie, la libération totale de la dépendance, la constitution d'une économie nationale, la lutte contre le sionisme, l'impérialisme et l'achèvement de l'unité arabe totale sur des bases démocratiques, ainsi que la cohabitation pacifique, le désarmement et l'achèvement de la paix mon-

Ce parti comporte un projet de programme politique portant sur les différents changements et les problèmes jordaniens depuis les années 1970, spécialement en ce qui concerne les relations palestino-jordaniennes.

Le parti arabe démocratique

Ce parti est conforme à la pensée arabe nationale qui est très proche de celle du parti baath arabe communiste. Son leader considère que la nécessité de former ce parti est apparue en 1961 après la séparation entre l'Egypte et la Syrie.

Ses objectifs se concentrent sur la réalisation de l'unité arabe, de l'égalité sociale, de la démocratie et de la libération totale de tous les territoires occupés dans le monde arabe. Il insiste aussi sur la dimension spirituelle et moderne de la société arabe.

Le mouvement des démocrates jordeniens

En juillet 1990, ce mouvement a publié un communiqué dont les principes sont la liberté, la démocratie, l'équité sociale et unité arabe.

Les propositions de ce mouvement portent surtout sur la construction d'une économie nationale indépendante; la satisfaction des intérets matériels et spiritueis des jeunes; la mise en place d'une politique pédagogique nationale et démocratique en vue de réels progrès économiques; l'assurance de la liberté et de l'égalité de la femme dans la société; et le soutien au peuple palestinien sous l'égide de l'OLP, son seul représentant légitime.

Le mouvement de sauvegarde

Etzbli en avril 1990, ce parti estime aveir pour but d'établir un mouvement arabe islamiste et combattant (jihadiyyah) fondé sur la pensée islamique. Ses obectifs sont la réalisation de l'indépendance, la fin de la domination étrangère, la construction d'une armée forte, le soutien l'Intifada palestinienne, l'amélioration des chances de travail pour chaque individu, la gratuité de l'éducation et du traitement médical, la garantie des droits légitimes des femmes et la sauvegarde de l'enfance et de la vieil-

Restent encore d'autres partis qui prement forme cette année ou sont en voie de constitution. mais qui ne sont pas encore réellement cristalisés. Ces partis seront officiellement légalisés après l'adoption de la charte nationale.

Saeda Kilani

L'essentiel des informations contenues dans cet article sont extraitres du dossier spécial sur «les partis politiques jordaniens» de la revue en arabe «Al-Urdun Al-Jadid» (La Jordanie nouvelle), dont nous avons signalé la parution dans notre numéro du 25 novembre dernier.

même. C'est la raison pour la-

EN BREF

Budget. Le ministre jordanien des Finances, Bassel Jardaneh, a présenté dimanche dernier le projet de budget pour 1991, établi par son ministère, devant la Chambre des députés. Cette dernière doit en débattre et le voter avant le 1er janvier, date du début de l'année budgétaire. Ce budget totalise 1,119 milliards de dinars jordaniens et comporte un «budget annexe de crise» de 120 millions de dinars, destiné à aider l'État à faire face aux charges supplémentaires imposées au pays par la crisc du Golfe. M. Jardanch a indiqué que cette crise a provoqué une augmentation du déficit de la balance des paiements atteignant 600 millions de dollars, au lieu de la baisse prévue de 250 millions de dollars, en raison notamment de la diminution des exportations qui atteint presque 17 millions de dollars. Le ministre a relevé par contre que les réserves en divises du pays seront renforcées et par conséquent la stabilité du dinar préservée, du fait des aides financières étrangères que la Jordanie s'apprête à recevoir en tant que pays directement touché par la crise du Golfe, soit 190 millions de dollars dont 135 millions avant la fin de année.

Koweitiens. Une délégation de personnalités koweitiennes en exil a en des entretiens dimanche et lundi dernier avec des dirigeants jordaniens, dans le premier contact du genre depuis l'invasion irakienne du Koweit le 2 août. La délégation était conduite par un homme de lettres koweitien. Ahmad ak-Sakkaf, et comprenait l'ancien ministre d'Etat des Affaires Etrangères ainsi que deux aniciens parlementaires. Le ministre jordanien des Affaires Etrangères, Marwan al-Kassem, a exprimé au cours de son entretien avec les anciens responsables koweitiens, la position du royaume qui, dès le début du conflit, «a prôné un règlement arabe de la crise préservant les intérêts de la nation arabe et écartant les dancers de l'intervention étrangère et de la confrontation militaire».

Otages. L'Assemblée Nationale irakienne a voté massivement vendredi la libération de tous les étrangers retenus en Irak et au Koweit. Les premiers bénéficiaires de cette décision étaient attendos dès hier chez eux. Tous les otages devront être transportés par des vols d'Iraki-Airways. Selon les autorités irakiennes, les 2.600 Occidentaux et Japonais retenus en Irak et au Koweit devraient être libérés d'ici noël. Saddam Hussein a expliqué cette mesure en affirmant que les otages avaient achevé de remplir leur office en donnant à l'Irak le temps de mettre en place sa défense, «qui est aujourd'hui suffisante pour répondre à toute agression».

Réunion. Une réunion quadripartite qui a regroupé mardi soir à Bagdad le président irakien Saddam Hussein, le roi Hussein de Jordanie, le vice-président du Conseil présidentiel yéménite Ali Salem al-Beid, et le chef de l'OLP Yasser Arafat, a salué l'amorce du dialogue américano irakien. Les quatre dirigeants, qui out procédé à des consultations approfondies sur la situation dans le Golfe, ont en outre préconisé un dialogue inter-arabe sur la crise.

Beyrouth. La réunification de Beyrouth et de ses environs a été achevée lundi avec le déploiement de l'armée libanaise dans Beyrouth-est, que la milice chrétienne des Forces Libanaises (FL) avait évacué dans la matinée. Avec 15 jours de retard sur la date prévue par le gouvernement, le Grand Beyrouth a donc été réalisé et cette zone de 350 km2, incluant la capitale libanaise et ses banlieues, est désormais vidée des armes lourdes de toutes les milices, et contrôlée par l'armée régulière avec l'appui des unités syriennes. L'avénement du Grand Beyrouth a été retardé en raison des exigences des FL, qui ont négocié avec le gouvernement la restitutions de permanences politiques dans le quartier chrétien du Metn. Ces locaux avaient été occupés par des milices pro-syriennes, entrées dans cette région dans le sillage des troupes syro-libanaises qui ont défait le général Aoun le 13 octobre dernier.

Tchad. Le chef rebelle Idriss Deby, nouveau président du Tchad, a déclaré mardi son intention d'établir le multipartisme démocratique dans son pays qui compte 5,4 millions d'habitants. L'homme qui a chassé mercredi l'ancien président Hissein Habré après trois semaines de lutte a appelé à l'unité du pays pour défendre son intégrité territoriale. Il avait contribué à l'établissement d'Hissein Habré lors du coût d'Etat qui avait permis à ce dernier de prendre le pouvoir en 1982, mais il avait rompu avec lui l'an dernier pour fonder un mouvement rebelle. Selon Hissein Habré et certains officiels américains, le chef rebelle aurait bénéficié du soutien de la Libye, ce qu'il nie formellement. la Libye a occupé le nord du Tchad en 1983 et 1986, incitant la France à y envoyer ses troupes pour défendre Hissein Habré. C'est Idriss Deby qui chassa les libyens après une série de batailles en 1987.

Argentine. Le gouvernement argentin, après avoir affronté durant près de vingt heures une série de mutineries, a annoncé dans la mit de lundi à mardi la reddition de la totalité des forces rebelles à Buenos Aires et dans l'intérieur du pays. Le président Carlos Menem, qui avait décrété l'état de siège aux premières heures de la matinée de lundi a affirmé que les auteurs de cette tentative de comp d'Etat seraient châtiés sévèrement et que des tribunaux militaires avaient commencé à fonctionner. Le président argentin qui a ainsi affronté sa première mutinerie depuis son arrivée au pouvoir il y a dix-huit mois, est le seul chef de l'Etat à avoir utilisé -depuis la restauration de la démocratie en Argentine- la force sans chercher à négocier comme l'avait fait le président Raoul Alfonsin qui, lui, a du faire face en 1987 et 1988 à quatre matineries beancoup moins sangiantes.

Halti. Le père Jean-Bertrand Aristide, un des favoris des élections présidentielles du 16 décembre prochain en Haiti, dont cinq partisans ont été tués et 54 autres blessés mercredi soir dans un attentat à l'explosif à l'issue d'un meeting politique à Pétionville (au sud de la capitale), a demandé l'arrestation du principal dirigeant néoduvaliériste, le docteur Roger Lafontant. Il a fait cette réclamation en raison des «menaces contre le secteur démocratique» proférées par Lafontant mardi soir, sur une chaîne de télévision de Port-an-Prince.

Bengladesh. Des partis d'opposition an Bengladesh ont demandé vendredi la convocation d'un tribunal contre l'ex-président Hussein Mohammed Ershad qui a rendu sa démission jeudi. Samedi, des groupes de fonctionnaires ont déchirré les portraits de l'ex-président, dont l'installation dans le pays avait coûté 2 millions de dollars. Auparavant, le président avait annoncé qu'il quitterait le pouvoir quinze jours avant les élections nationales prévues l'an prochain, affirmant céder ainsi aux revendications de l'opposition. Il avait annoncé en outre que l'état d'urgence, imposé en novembre dernier, serait levé le 16 décembre, jour de la fête nationale du Bengladesh marquant l'accession de ce pays à l'indépendance en 1971.

Kohl. La coalition chrétienne-libérale dirigée par le chancelier Helmut Kohl disposera de 398 des 662 sièges du nouveau Bundestag après avoir remporté dimanche dernier une très large majorité lors des premières élections générales de l'Allemagne unifiée. La grande surprise de ce scrutin, non prévue par les sondages, a été le manyais score du parti écolo-pacifiste des Verts dans l'ex-RFA; en effet, les Verts, représentés au Bundestag de Bonn depuis 1983 et qui avaient obtenu 8,3% en 1987 (51 sièges), n'ont cette sois-ci gagné que 3,9% des suffrages. L'opposition social-démocrate (SPD) enregistre quant à elle ses plus mauvais résultats depuis 1957 avec 33,5% des suffrages, soit 239 sièges.

Cummings. L'acteur américain Robert Cummings, qui a joné sous la direction d'Alfred Hitchcock aux côtés de Grace Kelly dans «Dial M for murder» (Le crime était presque parfait) est décédé dimanche dernier à l'âge de 80 ans à Los Angeles. Il avait joué dans une soixantaine de films dont «So red the Rose», son premier rôle en 1935 et une version télévisée de «Twelve angry men» (12 hommes en colère) qui lui valut un Oscar de la télévision.

Banlieues. Face à la détérioration accélérée de la situation dans les banlieues des grandes villes françaises, le président François Mitterrand a présenté mardi à Bron (banlieue de Lyon, au centre est de la France) un plan global de réhabilitation des banlieues les plus déshéritées. Il a ensuite explicité les quatre «principes d'action» qui animent ce plan global. D'abord «concentrer les efforts de l'Etat sur les quatre cents quartiers les plus défavorisés», ensuite «veiller à organiser la diversité», puis «faire participer les habitants, en particulier les jeunes, à la renaissance de leur cité» et les inviter à «s'approprier leur quartier». Enfin, principe «très difficile à mettre en œuvre, parvenir à créer des emplois» pour ces habitants.

Stations pépinières jordaniennes Les vergers du désert

Mardi dernier, les ministres de l'Agricuiture et de la Jennesse jordaniens, MM. Sulciman Arabiyat et Ibrahim Ghababsheh, visitaient en compagnie de l'Ambassadeur de France à Amman, M. Denis Bauchard, les stations pépinières du gouvernement aux environs de Tafileh. Chaque année, l'ensemble de ces stations jordaniennes produisent plus d'un millions d'arbres fruitiers, sains et adaptés au climat, qui sont vendus bon marché aux agriculteurs du royaume. La France est présente dans cette initiative en tant que principal fournisseur de plants à greffer et par la présence de deux experts permanents au ministère de l'agriculture, Patrice Cazaux et Philippe Ospital, qui travaillent sur ces projets.

Versions modernes des traditionnelles casis, les stations pépinières jordaniennes montrent qu'un pen de technologie suffit pour rendre le désert fertile.

Quelques kilomètres avant Tafilch, on quitte la route du Roi pour se diriger, sur la droite, vers la station de Tuwana, une des plus importantes du royaume. Là, au milieu des sables et des cailloux, douze hectares de verdure dense étalent la couleur rassurante de la vie, avec par endroits des espaces impoes ou orange qui témoignent de l'approche de l'hiver.

Rien de magique dans cette abondance: juste un pen d'eau, des tuyauteries, de l'engrais, du travail et de la matière grise. Au pied de chaque arbrisseau, un tuyau de caoutchouc, véritable cordon ombilical, apporte à certaines hemes de la journée, l'eau et les aliments nécessaires à sa vitalité. Créée en 1987, cette station est elimentée par un puits d'environ 200 mètres de profondeur, capable de fournir environ 36 m3 d'esu à l'heure. Avant d'être propulsée dans les tubes d'irrigation, l'eau est enrichie d'oligo-éléments et de sels minéraux insuffisamment présents dans

le sol du désert. Pommiers, pêchers, abricotier, poiriers, grenades, figuiers on amendiers auraient alors mauvaise grâce à ne pas s'épanouir sous le soleil jordanien, d'autant que quarante personnes travaillent en permanence à les planter, les soigner, les tailler, aérer la terre etc...

La station de Tawana est divisée en treize secteurs. Trois d'entre eux sont réservés à la culture des plantes mères, sur lesquelles seront pris les greffons ani permettent de transformer de vulgaires praniers en fruitiers sophistiqués. Deux autres secteurs fournissent les portegreffes, tandis que les autres accueillent les arbres transformés, par rotations de deux ans pour laisser à la terre le temps de se reposer.

Arrivés à quasi-maturité, les arbres sont vendus aux agriculteurs installés essentiellement dans la vallée du Jourdain, mais anssi au nord et an sud du pays. Une dizzine de stations de ce

type existent anjourd'hui en Jordanie, qui ont produit l'an dernier un peu plus de 1,250 million de jeunes arbres fruitiers, dont la moitié d'oliviers. Chacune est plus ou moins spécialisée, qui

dans les fruits à noyaux ou à pépins, qui dans les agrumes, dans la vigne ou dans les olivier. Certaines, comme celle de Tafileh même, se consacrent unignement à la production des différentes essences d'arbres à feuilles persistantes qui servent au reboisement du pays, à un rythme de 3.000 hectares par an. Un reboisement destiné à améhorer l'environnement et à lutter contre l'érosion des sols.

L'intérêt de ces stations est

d'abord d'épargner aux régions agricoles un encombrement inutile de leurs terres fertiles par des arbres qui n'ont pas encore atteint le stade productif. Elles permettent aussi de fournir des arbres particulièrement sains. Une des principales menaces qui pèsent sur les arbres fruitiers, que ce soit en Jordanie ou ailleurs, est en effet représentée par les virus. Ceux-ci, qui s'attaquent aux arbres, affectent considérablement la quantité et la qualité de la production et peuvent se répandre à vitesse grand V dans les vergers, en passant d'un arbre à un autre. Isolées du reste des arbres par des kilomètres de désert sans végétations, les stations sont à l'abri de telles épidémies. Encore faut-il éviter que les virus ne se servent d'un plant importé comme d'un cheval de Troie pour pénétrer dans la forteresse et y répandre l'épidémie.

La chose s'est d'ailleurs déjà produite dans le passé avec des arbres importés à bas prix d'exportateurs peu scrupuleux. C'est la raison pour laquelle, la quasitotalité des porte-greffes sont aujourd'hui achetés à des pépinières françaises qui offrent, elles, une garantie sanitaire sérieuse.

Il reste pourtant qu'on n'est jamais mieux servi que par soiquelle le ministère de l'agriculture s'équipe actuellement d'un laboratoire de culture in-vitro offert par la France, qui permettra très bientôt de produire en milien stérile des plants indemnes de virus pouvant être introduits sans risque dans les stations. La technique consiste à prendre les parties terminales des plantes disponibles et saines, pour les multiplier et les regénérer après une phase d'observation et de contrôle: on obtient ainsi plusieurs plantes identiques à la première avec la garantie absolue qu'elles sont exemptes de toute maladie. De quoi alléger considérablement le déséquilibre de la balance des paiements et éviter tout risque.

Le succès des pépinières conduit les autorités à souhaiter leur développement. L'an prochain, elles prévoient d'étendre la superficie de la station de Tuwana par exemple, en ouvrant un second puits qui offrira un débit de 66 m3 à l'heure. Pour améliorer la rationnalité des arrosages. elles envisagent aussi d'installer des tensions mêtres sous le soi qu mesureront précisément les besoins de la terre en eau. Avec les experts français qui sont au cœur de tous ces projets, il est anssi question d'organiser des stages sur la taille et l'entretien des arbres, ainsi bien sûr que pour l'utilisation du nouveau laboratoire.

Extension des forêts, pépinières dans le désert pour alimenter les vergers du nord, de l'onest et du sud; la Jordanie reverdit chaque année d'avantage. On finit par avoir hâte de ne pas être déjà au printemps.

Jean-Marc Bordes

«Le mur du saule-pleureur» de Taher al-Adwan

La vie des Jordaniens dans les années 1950

Rares sont les œuvres littéraires jordaniennes qui évoquent les moments forts de notre histoire contemporaine. Parmi celles-ci pourtant, le dernier roman de Taher al-Adwan intitulé «Le mur du saule pleureur». L'auteur y décrit la vie de la Jordanie et des Jordaniens des années 1950. C'était une période importante et cruciale pour la génération qui nous a précédés. La Jordanie venait juste de sortir de la première confrontation avec ce qui sera Israel après 1948. L'exode des centaines de milliers de Palestiniens, le début de la vie politique multipartiste, la lutte nationale contre le colonialisme britannique et la montée du nationalisme arabe.

L'histoire se déroule à Sweileh, alors petit village jordanien hybride. Les personnages du roman évoquent chacun une tranche de vie sociale et politique jordanienne de l'époque.

Youssef est un officier expulsé de l'armée par le chef anglais

Ghibb à cause du courage et du patriotisme dont il fait preuve au cours de la guerre contre les sionistes en 1948. Il retrouve son travail après l'expulsion du général britannique, le 1er mars 1956. Il est plein de nostalgie pour sa maison, en Palestine occupée.

Le boulanger, lui aussi, se rendait en Cisjordanie tous les mois avec sa femme pour regarder sa maison de l'autre côté, cachée derrière le mur du saule-pleureur -d'où le nom du roman.

Ali est un militant baathiste, aux origines bourgeoises, venu de Kerak après avoir fait des études de lettres à l'université de Damas. Il s'efforce de rallier les jeunes au parti. Jaber, c'est l'épicier, chez qui

les copains se réunissent pour échanger des informations politiques et sociales et pour discuter de l'actualité.

Farid, instituteur et militant communiste cherche à organiser les «prolétaires» dans le parti. Les jeunes filles du village,

Leyla et Samira, cherchent le prioce charmant et flirtent avec les jeunes hommes en vue du

Ceux-là et bien d'autres constituent la société de Suweileh. micro-type de la société jordanienne de l'époque. Al-Dawan raconte la vie des gens, leurs joies, leurs peines leur enthousiasme et leur frustration. tant sur les plans sentimental et social que sur les plans politique et militant. C'est une fresque vivante de nos souvenirs et de nos ambitions dans ces années-là. Ce roman se lit en souplesse, avec tendresse et nostalgie.

L'œuvre d'al-Adwan peut être considérée comme une sorte de littérature socio-historique. A travers ce récit on récapitule certaines moeurs et traditions sociales qui ont presque disparu de la vie jordanienne aujourd'hui. A titre d'exemple, l'échoppe du boulanger n'était pas uniquement le lieu où l'on se procurait le pain, mais aussi un lieu de rencontre sociale entre les

tier. L'arrêt de bus et le bus hi-même étaient encore le lieu où les amoureux pouvaient s'échanger des regards et où l'on pouvait faire des rencontres inhabituelles. Enfin, les pages où l'auteur décrit minutieusement l'installation de la radio dans le village pour la première fois sont à la fois amusants et significatives. C'est l'occasion de faire la fête. La radio bouleverse les idées et les conceptions des villageois dans les domaines politiques et culturels. C'est l'époque où les idées nationalistes romanti-

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ques gagnent du terrain. Néanmoins, maigré les victoires, on sent le ton de l'amertume monter au fil des pages. «Les capitales tombent mais le mur (du saule-pleureur) reste>, allusion sans doute à la persist-

ance du danger sioniste. Pourtant un défaut jalonne le roman: l'auteur «saute» par dessus un chapitre important de cette époque: l'annulation du traité jordano-britannique (le 13 mars 1957) et le gouvernement habitants du village ou du quar- Nabulsi (unique gouvernement

d'opposition de gauche élu démocratiquement dans toute l'histoire politique de la Jordanie). On comprend mai comment les personnages peuvent évoquer d'autres événements moins moportants et négliger ceux-là. L'explication est pent-être dans le fait que l'auteur a achevé son œuvre en février 1989, deux mois avant les événements d'avril, qui ont marqué le début de la libéralisation dans le pays. Il est probable que si al-Adwan avait attendu un pes, il aurait écrit un roman plus

Mais cette lacune -- même si elle est importante- ne diminue pas la valeur de ce nouveau ro-

Rappelons enfin que celui-ci a été précédé en 1987 d'un premier roman de l'auteur, «de visage du temps, consacré à la vie des Jordaniens dans les années 1940.

Suleiman Sweiss eHa'et al-Sofraf. (Le mur du saule plenreur) de Taber Al-Adwan, aux éditions Al-Karmei (Amman, sep-

Auteur du premier vol à moteur

La rubrique de Flavia Romero

Réponse

PASSEZ-MOI MON FRANCAIS

Ave Flavin.

Tu me demandes de parler de moi. J'ai envie de te dire comme le Christ «tu ne me chercherais pas si tu ne m'avais déjà trouvé», tu ne m'ecrirais pas si tu ne me connaissais déjà. Je conçois pourtant qu'après ces neuf longs mois de correspondance ta verve s'épuise faute d'encouragements de ma part. Tu as besoin peut-être de mieux me cerner pour aborder des thèmes plus secrets, adopter un style plus direct.

Je n'ai pas l'habitude de parler de moi, tout au plus consigné-je mes actes de la manière la plus neutre, voire la plus austère possible, pour pouvoir m'en souvenir et aussi pour qu'ils acquièrent plus de réalité, une durée qui soit au moins à l'échelle de ma vie. Je n'en demande pas plus, la pérénité ne m'intéresse pas mais je refuse d'oublier, de perdre la trace de ce qui m'a marquée, je me raconte pour moi, mais la conscience de l'égoisme de cet acte me tend foile et mon style devient, par réaction, par mortification, sec et volontairement sans relief. Bref, me raconter me rend nerveuse et c'est un bien grand effort que tu me demandes. Mais peut-on refuser quelque chose à une si fidèle amie?

Tu me sais vive, décidée, exigeante, intransigeante, passionnée, inlassablement curieuse: tout cela est vrai. Tu me connais également semme, fragile, rêveuse, toujours prête à céder à mes penchants nonchalants, doucereux et mièvres: cela aussi est vrai comme il est vrai que je ne peux supporter que quiconque en soit témoin. Je n'en suis que plus dure, intraitable voire condescendante habituellement. Mais ce qui, je crois, te permettra de mieux-me cerner c'est mon exigence d'absolu qui est aussi à l'origine de ma quéte.

Dotée de nombreux dons et de plus de richesses qu'il n'en est possible de réunir à ton époque, je menais à Rome une existence que beaucoup m'enviaient. Quelque chose pourtant manquait à ma vie. une dimension entière qui donne un sens à tous ces biens, un axe qui permet de conférer relief et par là même réalité à notre existence terrestre. Ce vide c'était le manque d'implications intimes dans ma vie spirituelle. Ne sommes nous pas tous ainsi faits que ce que nous avons ne nous suffit pas, qu'il nous faut nous développer, nous améliorer, découvrir. N'est-ce pas ce bien, cette quête qui nous maintient en vie?

Quoi qu'il en soit, je sentais que ce qui manquait à ma vie à Rome, je le trouverais en Orient. là où la lumière sourd du sol et des visages, des mains ouvertes et des cœurs dans lesquels brûle l'amour du prochain. Cette terre qui nous rapproche, j'y cherchais le berceau de ce qui est humain, de ce qui est bon et grand en nous. Je crois que je l'y ai trouvé. Ou devrais-je plutôt dire que j'y ai compris et surtout admis que ce n'est pas ici-bas que je le trouverais? Ce pays exceptionnel, je l'ai aimé, je l'ai silloné à outrance. comme beaucoup de choses que je fais. Je l'ai détesté aussi pour la leuteur avec laquelle il se révèle, se dévoile, et parce que je n'y ai pas trouvé la paix que j'escomptais, la sérénité qui me permettrait d'arrêter ma course folle, mon besoin de me déployer dans l'espace. Car il s'agissait aussi d'une fuite. Vois-tu, il n'est pas possible dans la Rome du IVe siècle de vivre sa foi de manière personnelle. Or mon exigence me disait d'aller au-delà des fastes naissants de l'Eglise, de remonter à la source de ma croyance. Tu auras compris qu'outre mon irrépressible envie de voir, de savoir, de connaître, de croire aussi, il y avait le besoin de m'isoler un peu, d'avoir des idées, voire des croyances, qui me soient propres ou du moins soient librement choisies. Tu l'auras compris car tu vis cela chaque jour, mais n'oublie pas qu'au moment où je t'écris seule la foule a une voix, un pouvoir; la puissance ce sont les hommes, la religion c'est le groupe. Et moi je suis lasse de mon entourage, de ces gens qui me suivent partout, jusque dans l'ascension des monts sacrés que j'aurais voulue solitaire. En fait je suis seule et ce d'autant plus que je suis entourée. Seule avec toi pourtant qui me parles et me comprends. Toi que je sais intransigeante et fragile, toi qui anrais pu être ma sœur.

Tu savais tout cela Flavia; tu le savais mais tu avais besoin de l'entendre, de le lire de ma main. Cette correspondance unilatérale te pèse parfois. Tu as peur de te livrer sans contre-partie. ne sommes-nous pas tous semblables? Moi qui suis loin et qui ne risque rien à me dévoiler, t'ai-je tout avoué? Je te parle de l'amour et de la vie, deux choses dont le Ciel m'a abondamment pourvue.

Dons que mon que mon voyage en Terre Sainte m'a appris à apprécier. Mais je ne t'ai par exemple pas dit que ce périple a échoué dans ce qui était pour moi l'un de ses buts les plus importants: la découverte de l'humilité. Flavia, jamais encore je n'ai admis cela, pas même en mon for intérieur, mais je crois que ma quête a été vaine: je n'ai pas découvert le dessein que Dieu a pour moi et je ne peux accepter qu'il n'en ait point!

Vale, Flavia!

Cette lettre d'Egeria est une réponse à la lettre de Flavia Romero du 4 novembre dernier, intitulée «Sincèrement vôtre». Elle est écrite par M. L., lecteur français, qui n'a pas souhaité donner plus d'informations sur son identité.

Qui était Clément Ader?

9 octobre 1890. Dans le parc du château d'Armainvilliers, propriété des banquiers Pereire, situé à proximité de Paris en Seine et Marne, quelques arbres ont été abattus. Une sorte de piste en terre battue a aussi été aménagée: toute droite, deux cents mètres de long. Il est près de 16 heures: la journée a été belle, un peu froide, sans vent.

A l'une des extrémités une drôle de machine: une sorte de cage en bambous montée sur des roues de bicyclette et prolongée de chaque côté par une sorte d'aile nervurée tout à fait semblable à celle des chauves-souris. On entent le halètement d'une machine à vapeur et on sent le souffle de la grande hélice qu'elle entraine. Une douzaine d'hommes s'activent autour de l'engin. chargent à refus la chaudière de

briquettes de charbon... Clément Ader, le visage tendu. s'installe entre les ailes: ce matin et cet après-midi même cette machine qu'il a baptisée «Eole» a fait plusieurs allers-retours sur la piste, roulant de plus en plus vite mais sans qu'il ose donner toute la puissance (12 CV). Et il a eu plusieurs fois l'impression que...

Mais cette fois, la chaudière ronfie, la pression est au maximum et il a bien l'intention de «tout lâcher». Les assistants retiennent l'engin, contrariant l'effort de l'hélice qui tourne de plus en plus vite, puis, sur un signe roule, ses ailes battent l'air... et etc. tout va très vite: gauchement, maladroitement, cette masse de 280 kg se soulève et les roues quittent le sol...

Sant de puce

Oh, cela n'ira pas très loin, ni très hant: 40 à 50 centimètres d'altitude et une cinquantaine de mètres en longueur! Mais il s'agit bien du premier vol au monde d'un engin volant à moteur.

Treize ans avant les exploits des frères Wright. Tout cela restera secret, très secret: secret mili-

Clément Ader et né en 1841 à Muret (Haute Garonne). Très doué intellectuellement. très adroit de ses mains, il avait eu accès dès son plus jeune âge aux choses de la mécanique par son contexte familial. Il recut une solide formation d'ingénieur qu'il ne cessa d'améliorer sa vie durant; complétée par un sens de l'observation aigu, elle déboucha sur une exceptionnelle carrière d'inventeur dans les domaines les Dès l'âge de 15 ans, il met au

point une sorte de combinaison d'ahomme-oiseau- qu'il endosse pour tenter de planer entre les montagnes proches du domicile paternel: il reconnaît d'ailleurs qu'il eut de «belles frayeurs»... En 1855 il imagine de cercier de caoutchouc les roues des toutpremiers vélocipèdes et fonde la marque fort réputée «Le Véloce» qui, pendant des années, fournira l'argent nécessaire à ses recherches. Il s'intéresse à tout et, pêle mèle, invente une machine à relever les rails de chemin de fer, la chemile pour véhicules, améliore le moteur électrique, découvre la stéréophonie, l'hydroglisseur, înagine le moteur à explosions en «V» et, de là, un véhicule à moteur qu'il reprendra plus tard en créant une firme d'automod'Ader, lâchent tout... L'Eole biles (moteur 4 cylindres en «V»),

Parallèlement à ses autres travaux, il s'intéressa passionnément an voi des oiseaux et nous possédons des centaines de dessins où il analysait le profil, les ailes, etc., non pas en ornithologue, mais en

Tout à découvrir

Et c'est ainsi qu'après maints tatonnements nous en arrivons an vol historique du 9 octobre. Tout

était à découvrir, y compris les notions les plus rudimentaires du pilotage... A preuve: il recommence en septembre 1891 avec le meme «Eole», intact après son premier vol. Mais ce deuxième vol d'une centaine de mètres est interrompu par un obstacle qu'il ne peut on ne sait éviter. Pourtant, il tient à son idée, s'achame sur ses plans et réussit à intéresser les militaires qui lui donnent un appui financier (il avait dépensé plus de 600.000F) et officiei.

C'est alors qu'il crée le mot «avion» et l'avion No 3. bimoteur, vole sur près de 400 mètres en 1897. Alors, la politique et l'Administration s'en mélant, l'Etat retire son aide et Ader renonce à poursuivre seul. Le secret militaire avant pleinement joué, l'œuvre et les réalisations aéronautiques de Clément Ader resteront pendant plus de 15 ans connues des seuls «initiés».

En 1908, alors qu'il sait que la relève est assurée après les vols de Santos-Dumont, de Feber, de Blériot..., il publie un livre prophétique: «L'aviation militaire», où tout ce qu'il prédit se réalisera et aura une grande influence, alors qu'il n'existe encore aucun avion à l'inventaire d'ancune armée. La justesse de ses vues lui vaudra d'être couvert d'honneurs après la guerre de 1914-1918. Cet homme génial, ce précurseur qui réussit le premier vol historique d'un «plus lourd que l'air», mourut le 3 mai 1925.

Plusieurs cérémonies officielles commémoreront cette année la date historique du premier vol à moteur. Mais l'initiative la plus enthousiasmante est celle des trois dernières promotions de la célèbre Ecole Centrale, dont les élèves out réalisé une reproduction exacte en vraie grandeur de l'«Eole», avec laquelle ils espèrent bien traverser la Manche.

Jean Chabrier

Expo «Forêt Goethe»

Bourdonnement monotone autour d'un parc ancien

Signid Neubert, auteur d'un classique de la photographie moderne allemande, revient au thème du parc avec une visite en Jordanie de la forêt Goethe. Son livre Der Park, étude du château de Nymphenbourg près de Milnich -à travers toutes les saisons et les changements de lumière et d'ambiance-était une merveilleuse étude de formes. Ici, c'est la Nature plutôt que la conception architecturale de châteaux et de jardins qu'elle met en lumière.

Que nous offre-t-elle dans cette exposition (placée sous l'égide de l'Institut Goethe) présentée au Visitors' Center d'Aqaba jusqu'au 10 décembre puis en tournée dans les villes du sud: Pétra, Tafileh (dates incertaines)? Regrettablement rien qui coupe le souffie: un projet décevant qui ne représente pas son aft ct est loin de mettre en œuvre le dessein bien arrêté pour lequel le Département des Forêts du Ministère de l'agriculture l'avait invitée, en octobre 1988. Elle devait préparer une étude scientifique destinée à présenter la forêt Goethe au public: une étendue de 4.000 ha, au sud de la Jordanie, composée de chênes, de genièvres et de cynnès entre Tafileh et Shohak près du village historique de Dana. C'est pour honorer le travail des forestiers allemands, au premier rang desquels Carl Gustav Freiherr von Hahn, qu'un décret royal de 1987 l'a baptisée du nom du poète et homme de science allemand Johan Wolfgang von Goethe -pionier lui même, par ses études de botanique au XIXe siècle, de la sylviculture.

Quelles sont les particularités de ce paysage que Signid Neubert a discernés à travers l'objectif de sa caméra? Ses photos de ce paysage majestueux de rochers et d'arbres, pour la plupart en conleurs avec ça et là des clichés noir et blanc, nous aident-elles à

nous en rapprocher? Ni les unes ni les autres n'y parviennent: les panneaux en conleurs présentent une perspective trop générale; ceux en noir et bianc révèlent une sensibilité à la recherche de son vrai sujet photographique. On a le sentiment que l'artiste a commencé à s'intéresser aux remarquables formes humaines, animales ou simplement singulières que le roc suggère et qu'elle a voulu ajouter à une exposition dont le but était scientifique un point de

vue personnel qui, malheureusement, ne dépasse pas le stade de

l'ébanche. Sur le plan scientifique, les photos, nécessairement en couleurs, soulispent une association entre arbre et rocher mais on ne trouvera aucune photo de détail. La monotonie de ces panneaux imprécis est doublée par un manque de relief dans le procédé photographique. Signid Neubert est restée fidèles à sa mission en prenant des échantillons documentaires de ce paysage insolite sans le personnaliser. Mais elle s'est limitée à l'enregistrer sans le faire découvrir avec force au spectateur.

Pour leur part, les forestiers ont fait peu d'efforts pour nous dévoiler les mystères de cette forêt. Deux pages de notes polycopiées expliquent abondamment la fructueuse coopération entre l'Allemagne et la Jordanie, expliquent la place de Goethe dans l'histoire littéraire et scientifique et expliquent tout ce qui reste à faire pour que la forêt soit étudiée sérieusement. En revanche, les questions du spectateur resteut sans réponses.

Partant des photos, on peut s'interroger par exemple sur la différence entre les arbres solitaires et ceux qui vivent en bosquet. Apparamment, il y a ceux qui s'entrelacent étroitement au rocher et ceux qui se tiennent à l'écart, en champ ouvert. Lesquels sont-ils, pourquoi?

Les forestiers out pratiquement ignoré le problème des désastres naturels et n'ont pas prêté-attention à la géographie humaine. Sur certaines photos, on remarque les traces d'un feu forestier. Comment s'est-il produit, quelle est sa fonction dans l'écologie de cette région désertique? Une photo d'un ancien pressoir à olives témoigne du passé oublié de ce terrain. Quel était-il? Et quel est le rapport de l'ancien village de Dana (trois photos) à cette forêt?

La monotonie (absence de détail et d'information solides) est augmentée par un manque de rythme dans l'ensemble. L'arrangement des photos est pêle-mêle, sans logique scientifique ou esthétique. Il y avait pourtant des possibilités: les photos du lever et du concher du soleil auraient pu être utilisées pour orchestrer des chapitres séparant, par exemple, les différentes catégories d'arbres.

Espérons que lorsque l'exposition arrivera à Pétra et à Tafileh, ces lacunes seront corrigées, et espérous une deuxième chose: que Sigrid Neubert, qui nous a donné Der Park, revienne en Jordanie pour achever le travail qu'elle a commencé à esquisser en noir et blanc, son point de vue personnel sur ce terrain insolite.

Sami Kamal

TELEVISION

DIMANCHE 17h30 - Téléfilm policier de la série Le Lyonnais».

19100 - Le Journal. 19615 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

LUNDI

· L'oiseau des mers. Dessia 18h16 - Denver le dernier dinossure: Dessin aminé. 18130 - Santé Vision. Magazine

médical 19100 - Le Journal 19115 - Magazine sportif hebdoma-

MARDI

18160 - Capitaine Marc Simon. De 18h10 - L'école des fans. Des enfants interprétent le répertoire a un cua teur célèbre, sous la houlette de

Jacques Martin. 19600 - Le Journal. 19h15 - Extraits de musique classi-

MERCREDI

18500 - "De Ganlle ou l'éternel défi". Sixième épisode de la série de Jean Lacouture sur ce grand personnage français qui amait eu cent ans cette année.

19h06 - Le Journal. 19h15 - Sélection de variétés.

JEUDI 18h00 - L'oiseau des mers. Dessin

1810 - Snorky. Dessin animé. 18135 - Splendeur sauvage. Documentaire sur la vie des animaux. 19506 - Le Journal. 19h15 - Reportages d'actualité.

VENDREDI

17h30 - "Subway". Film français de Luc Besson, avec Christophe Lambert et Isabelle Adjani. **19500 -** Le Journal 19615 - Histoire de l'art. Série documentaire.

SAMEDI

18400 - Les clés de Fort Boyard. Course au trésor exigeant des candidata courage physique et bonne culture générale. **19460** - Le Journal.

19h15 - Aujourd'hui en France. Magazine culturei français:

CINEMA

Fantastique. Quatre films fantastiques, petis par la durée mais grands en qualité, sont présentés cette semaine par le CCF dans le cadre de la série qu'il propose ce mois-ci sur le court-métrage. Cestre Culturei Français, le lundi 10 décembre à 20h.

Lang. Dans le cadre du festival Prin Lang, présenté par Sami Kamal, den films du grand cinéaste expressionist allemand: «Das Testament des D Mabuse» et la première partie de «Nibelunger», dont in suite sera présentée la semaine prochaine. Institut Goethe le dimanche 9 à 2004 pour le pressier et le samedi 15 à 20th pour le second.

Sans blague!

Aristote et les Nations-Unies

[Pour être bien conseillé, Bush, encore vice-président, entreprit de faire construire un ordinateur super-géant (baptisé Aristote) doté d'un système d'intelligences artificielles extrémement perfectionné. Tout récemment mis en service, celui-ci avait déjà convaince Bush qu'il était de l'intérêt des Etats-Unis de laisser les Arabes résondre eux-mêmes la crise du Golfe et lui avait suggéré le moyen de désolidariser le lobby juif d'Israël.]

Bush, qui au début des années 1970 avait servi pour près de deux ans comme représentant de son pays aux Nations-Unies, avait écrit dans son autobiographie, publiée récemment, que l'ONU «ne faisait que refléter les tensions qui existaient dans le monde sans pouvoir les résoudre». Néanmoins, les derniers développements surveurs en URSS, en Europe de l'est et surtout dans la région du Golfe, l'amenèrent à penser que l'ONU devait dorénavant jouer un rôle plus actif pour promulguer la loi internationale et la faire respecter. Il ne s'agissait plus seulement d'empêcher les conflits locaux mais aussi de trouver les moyens de faire face à des dangers qui commençaient à menacer sérieusement l'humanité entière: explosion démographique, addiction à la drogue, pollution, crime organisé, terrorisme et SIDA. De son bureau oval, il prit son téléphone rose et appela Aristote pour discuter de son idée.

-Bonjour M. le président, je suis à votre service. -Bonjour Aristote. l'aimperais voir le rôle de l'ONU renforcé pour empêcher les conflits sangiants, protéger notre giobe des dangers imminents qui le guettent et faire régner la justice entre les bommes.

-Vous avez là, M. le président, un programme bien ambitieux qui ne pourrait jamais être réalisé à travers l'ONU: avec sa charte et ses structures actuelles, elle est vouée à écister, comme l'a fait tout récemment la Ligne arabe.

-Amendons sa charte et ses structures! Quelles modifications

-Simplement que la nouvelle charte soit conforme au principe de Montesquieu. -Le principe de la séparation des pouvoirs?

-Exactement, M. le président. L'Assemblée Générale détiendra le pouvoir législatif. Néanmoins, comme il n'est pas du tout équitable qu'un pays comme l'Inde qui compte près de huit cent millions d'habitants soit traité, au sein de cette assemblée, sur un pied d'égalité avec le Lichtenstein qui n'en compte qu'à peine 30.000, je propose que le vote de ciracun des représentants soit pondéré en fonction du nombre des habitants de son pays.

-Je ne comprends pas très bien. -Eh bien voilà: A supposer que l'on convienne de donner une voix pour dix millions d'habitants, le vote de notre représentant comptera pour 25 voix du fait que notre pays compte 250 millions d'habitants; en revanche, celui du représentant du Lichtenstein ne comptera que pour trois millièmes de voix. Par ailleurs, les lois

seront adoptées au sein de l'Assemblée à la majorité simple et devront être respectées partout dans le monde. -Cela semble équitable mais dangereux. Les pays du Tiers-Monde, avec l'explosion démographique qu'ils subissent, finiront bientôt par devenir majoritaires au sein de cette assemblée.

-Eh bien non! La première loi qui doit passer devant l'Assemblée générale devrait être une loi sur la limitation du nombre d'enfants qu'aurait le droit de mettre au monde une semme pendant sa vie (la fécondité). Avec les votes de la Chine, du Japon, de l'URSS, des pays de l'Europe et de l'Amérique du nord, la loi passera facilement. Si la fécondité est fixée dans la loi à deux enfants par femme, le nombre d'habitants du monde n'augmentera que très modérément pour finir bientôt par se

-Avec le pape, d'autres chefs religieux et les intellectuels baratineurs, votre ioi ne passera pas si facilement, mais passons! Serait-ce le Conseil de Sécurité qui assumerait le pouvoir exécutif?

-Pas exactement, car il n'y aura plus de Conseil de Sécurité. On aura à la place le Gouvernement Mondial, ou Cabinet Mondial, avec un Premier ministre et une vingtaine de ministres. -Je présume que les membres permanents du Conseil de Sécurité seraient membres de droit de votre cabinet et que le Premier ministre serait américain.

-Eh bien nou, M. je président! Le Premier ministre sera élu par l'Assemblée Générale à la majorité simple. Son gouvernement une fois formé ne devra pas compter plus d'un ministre par région. -Par pays vous voulez dire.

-Non pas par pays mais bien par région. Je m'explique: le globe sera partagé en une cinquantaine de régions géographiques comptant chacune une centaine de millions d'habitants. -Et qui nommera ces ministres? -Le Premier ministre bien sûr, mais il devra obtenir la confiance

de l'Assemblée en son gouvernement. Celui-ci devra en particulier démissionner aussitôt que l'Assemblée lui aura retiré sa confiance, à la suite du vote d'une motion de censure par

-Et qu'adviendra-t-il des organisations onusiennes actuelles telles que l'UNESCO ou la FAO? -Elles disparaîtront et seront affectées à l'un ou l'autre des

ministères mondiaux. -Et le droit de véto?

-li n'y en sure plus. Avouez tout de même que c'est une pratique tout ce qu'il y a de moins démocratique! -Comment pourrions-nous donc continuer à défendre les agressions israéliennes sans ce sacré véto?

-Eh bien, Israël n'aura à l'avenir qu'à bien se tenir. -Ce sera difficile! Passous! Et qui détiendra le pouvoir judiciaire?

-Deux Cours, chacune formée de sept juges. La première, la Cour des Nations, aura pour mission de considérer les différends entre pays, concernant par exemple le tracé des frontières ou le partage des eaux des fleuves. La deuxième sera la Haute Cour, qui devra considérer les plaintes déposées par l'un ou l'autre des pays contestant la légalité de certaines décisions ou décrets promulgnés par le Gouvernement Mondial.

-Et les juges, qui les nommera? le Premier ministre? -Non M. le président, ils devront être éins par l'Assemblée Générale parmi des juges de haute compétence dont les candidatures seront présentées par les différents gouvernements, à condition toutefois que pas plus d'un seul juge d'une même région ne soit cht.

-Et comment sure respecter les décisions de la Justice? -Le Gouvernement Mondial aura à sa disposition une armée formée par les trois quarts des armées de tous les pays du monde. Mais avant d'utiliser la force, le pays récalcitrant sera mis au ban de la société mondiale pour six mois au moins: ses représentants serout chassés de l'Assemblée, sinsi que de toutes les institutions de l'ONU. Un embargo total sera imposé contre lui par tous les pays du monde. En cas de récidive, impensable d'ailleurs, le minimum de force sera employé en essayant, autant que possible, d'éviter aux populations civiles des souffrances inutiles. -Bravo Aristote! L'Irak n'aura plus qu'à bien se tenir!

-Israël antenil -Alei Antre chose: comment financer les opérations des institutions de l'ONU?

-Chaque pays devra verser annuellement à l'ONU 2% de son Produit National Brut. -Ca semble honnête. Et le siège du gouvernement, ne devra-t-il

pas rester au palais de verre de New-York? -Pas nécessairement. Le siège du ministère de la Culture pourra être per exemple le siège actuel de l'UNESCO, à Paris. De toute façon, avec les moyens actuels de communication, les conférences et conseils des ministres pourraient être tenus sans que les ministres aient à se déplacer. Quant à l'Assemblée, elle pourra tenir ses sessions dans les différentes régions du Globe, à tour de

rôle. -Pourriez-vous me faire un projet de la nouvelle charte de l'ONU telle que vous la concevez?

-Bien sûr M. le président. Le document sera prêt dans six minutes et quatorze secondes.

-Merci Aristote, au revoir. Bush se promettait secrétement d'effectuer tout de même quelques modifications sur le projet d'Aristote avant d'en discuter avec qui que ce soit pour donner à son pays la main-mise sur les institutions de la nouvelle Organisation.

Sabri Farah

Gulf crisis inflicts massive economic damage on Jordan

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By Ralph Dannheisser

EMBER 9, h

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AMMAN - Talk with the ordinary Jordanian or with some of the country's leading economists and the view expressed is the same: their nation has suffered more from the fallout of the Gulf crisis than any other but Kuwait itself.

They cite a wide spectrum of economic damage, from loss of export markets and a sharp falloff in tourist trade to the staggering costs of carring for the flow of evacuees from Kuwait and endangered access to the oil that keeps a modern society running.

Many blame their problems, at least in part, on what they see as unfair treatment by the nations allied against Iraq based on a mistaken belief that Irdan's moderate approach leflects official as well as popuiar support for Iraq.

The views expressed by the typical worker in businesses that rely on a suddenly absent flow of visitors are personallyoriented and direct. A taxi driver needs a little

encouragement to tell his troubles to a passenger. "I have been working since six this morning, for almost four hours," he says, "and I have made three dinars."

He points at his gasoline gauge. "Now I need three dinars in petrol," he says. The driver makes a sweeping motion towards the boulevard

ahead. "Look, it is like Friday. You see nobody. A small shopkeeper complains to a visitor that he cannot make it, due to early closing hours imposed by the govern-

ment in order to conserve fuel.

A desk clerk at the Amman International Hotel, near the university, has a similar story. The hotel's occupancy rate is now 17 per cent, compared with the nearly 100 per cent rate normal at this season, he

Even that is an improvement. For August the hotel had been 15 per cent overbooked in advance; when the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait August 2 raised the threat of a broader conflict, cancellations swiftly brought business to a total standstill.

"This has really done terrible things to our country," he says, especially at first when "no one wanted to come here." Still, he says, "You must live. You must survive. You cannot sit and do nothing."

The economists provide the figures to put the situation into broader perspective.

Bassam Saket has served as minister of agriculture and secretary general of the royal court. Now he is chairman of a public-private joint venture that operates two major cement factories.

Saket flatly deciares Jordan "second after Kuwait in terms of economic losses and material suffering" from the Gulf

Citing government figures that put the total projected full-year cost to Jordan at \$3,200 to 4,200 million, he says even those numbers are underestimates because they reflect

only static losses. While the reduced value of

exports may show up as \$300 million, he says, that ignores "the dynamics of the figures" - aspects like the decline in potential jobs that are associated with the lost trade oppormuity.

The reentry into the country of many Jordanians who had been working in Kuwait also carries with it costs that have not been fully accounted for, Saket says - including a curtailed flow of remittances into the country, the need to find jobs for the returnees and increased pressure on services like health and education.

All this is beaped upon major losses to the country's small business trucking operators, staggering increases in insurance rates and problems related to Jordan's almost total reliance on Iraq, for oil, he

Saket insists that Jordan has not received proper credit for complying with United Nations-ordered sanctions against trade with Iraq, not-

withstanding the massive problems that compliance creates. As a result, he says, compensation for the massive losses has been slow in coming.

Another businessmareconomist, one with close ties to the present government. strikes a similar theme.

The man, who asks that his name not be used, says Jordan has fared far worse in terms of allied reimbursement for losses than anyone else, despite a higher level of suffering that the sanctions impose.

While gross monetary losses may be on a par with those incurred by the other frontline states — Egypt and Turkey, he says — those nations can spread the effect over a far larger population. They each have some 50 million people while Jordan numbers only 3 to 3.5 million, he says. Thus, he notes, the losses amount to perhaps 4 to 6 per cent of the gross national product (GNP) to Egypt and Turkey, but a staggering 30 to 50 per cent of

Jordan's GNP. He readily identifies what

Countries (OAPEC) to Cairo

from its previous base in Kuwait,

delegates meeting in Cairo said.

"The move is on a temporary

basis until the reasons for the

move have been eliminated," one

delegate at the organisation's

annual ministerial meeting told

A majority of the 10-country

organisation has strongly

opposed Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of

Ruwait and insisted on an im-

mediate and unconditional with-

It was not immediately clear

how Iraq, represented at the

meeting by its ambassador to

Egypt Nabil Nejim Al Takriti.

voted on the decision.

he sees as the problem: while the government has been clear in rejecting the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait, it has consistently pushed for a diplomatic solution and opposed the buildup of outside

forces in the region. At the same time, elements of the press and public have been vocal in their support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, clouding the fact that a "silent majority" backs the government.

The result, he says, is that "people outside Jordan confuse what the press and the man in the street say" with the official position of the government.

Thus help has been slow in coming, he says, noting that only 17 million dollars has been compensated of some \$1.500 million in demonstrable losses so far - though another \$150-190 million is expected shortly from Japan and Germany.

Like Saket, he voices concern that failure to address Jordan's needs could eventual-

Arabia, has been operating from

members — Saudi Arabia, Iraq,

Kuwait, the United Arab Emi-

rates, Qatar, Libya and Algeria

- with small producers Syria,

Kuwait's exiled government

was represented by its Oil Minis-

Egypt, playing host to Iraq and Kuwait, urged the oil ministers to

keep divisive views on the Gulf

crisis from affecting their dream

"Our thoughts are over-

whelmed by anxiety... over the

of achieving economic unity.

ter Rashid Salem Al Ameeri.

Egypt calls for unity

Egypt and Bahrain.

OAPEC groups seven OPEC

CAIRO (R) — Arab oil ministers its establishment in 1968, has

decided Saturday to shift the been virtually paralysed by the

headquarters of the Organisation invasion and its secretary general,

of Arab Petroleum Exporting Abdul Aziz Al Turki of Saudi

OAPEC, based in Kuwait since dangers that threaten the future

Egypt calls for economic unity

ly undermine the government's stand.

"If there is a serious economic crisis in Jordan, then the man in the street will look at the government and say, why should you implement sanctions any more?

"The farmer in the Jordan Valley who is going bankrupt because he can't sell his tomatoes to Iraq will say, Why should I continue to see my tomatoes rot? I'm going to break the sanctions'," he says.

Jawad Anani, a consulting economist who formerly held posts as minister of supply, of labour, and of industry and trade, says the economic crisis could not have come at a worse

He notes that Jordan, already suffering from declining foreign exchange earnings. price increases and escalating unemployment, was in the midst of implementing an adjustment plan worked out with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

"In the first half of this year, we thought we were making

of the Arab Nation for long

"We have to get out of the

(Gulf) crisis with minimum losses

and draw the lessons from the

Iraq's Ambassador Al Takriti,

is leading a low-level delegation

to the annual meeting that would

discuss how to promote coopera-

tion in the Arab petroleum indus-

try. OAPEC's 10 members own

more than two-thirds of the

Kandeel, OAPEC president

since November 1989, steered

clear of the strong words that

"The first mistake we should

avoid is to let political differences

affect our economic interests,"

marked Egypt's condemnation of OPEC conferences.

world's total oil reserves.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Kandeel told ministers.

opening session.

mistakes of the past."

years," Egyptian Oil Minister fate and will return to each other

Abdul Hadi Kandeel said at the no matter how far apart they

it," Anani says. "The inflation rate dropped from 25 per cent in 1989 to 12 per cent, and we hoped for 1.5 per cent real growth in GNP compared with a minus 1 to 2 per cent the year before."

But continued improvement depended on growth in exports, on further receipt of some \$500 million a year in aid from Gulf countries, on increasing remittances from Jordanian workers abroad. "When the Gulf crisis erupted, all these were threatened," he Says.

Stili, Anani is cautiously optimistic.

"I would make a bet on the fact that war would not take place, there is ample room for negotiation," he says. And if there is no war, he says, "I am not worried about the Jordanian economy."

Even if a resolution came quickly, Anani acknowledges, "we will spend at least two years trying to convalesce." But after that, he says, steady improvement could be expected — U.S. Information

"The Arab peoples have one

Oil, he said, represented the

most important wealth for the

Arab Nation and "OAPEC is the

lighthouse for the Arab pet-

will lose their way in the stormy

"If this light is put out our ships

Unlike OPEC, the Arab group

does not discuss oil prices and

production policies of its

member-states, but its meetings

have often provided an opportun-

ity for major oil producers to

coordinate policies ahead of

of Petroleum Exporting Coun-

tries (OPEC) is scheduled to hold

its biannual meeting in Vienna on

The 13-member Organisation

roleum industry."

seas of politics."

Wednesday.

U.S. unemployment rises, interest rates fall

WASHINGTON (R) — A big jump in U.S. unemployment in November triggered interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve and several banks as fears intensified that the economy was sinking into recession.

The Department of Labour said on Friday the jobless rate rose to 5.9 per cent in November from 5.7 in October. Job numbers fell 267,000 in November after a 178,000 October drop.

"We have not seen consecutive job losses of this magnitude since the end of 1982," the trough of the last recession, Janet Norwood, commissioner of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, told the joint economic committee of Congress on Friday.

Economists said the data showed the economy had entered into recession, usually defined as six months of declining economic final three months of the year. Following release of the Labour Department report, the

Federal Reserve — the U.S. central bank - moved to ease interest rates slightly. The Federal Reserve signalled it was lowering the key federal funds ate, the interest banks

per cent, by injecting money into the banking system. Two U.S. banks responded to the jobs data by cutting the prime lending rate charged to the best customers to 9.75 per cent from 10 per cent effective on Monday. The prime rate is used as a from seven per cent. benchmark to set many business

and consumer loans.

activity. Many believe the eco- such moves have been delayed by nomy was contracting during the the poor environment for lending, which has cut into bank

Some economists said the jobs data was so negative that they expected the Federal Reserve to take a bolder step to boost the economy and lower its discount rate, the interest the central bank charges on overnight loans to charge each other for overnight loans, to 7.25 per cent from 7.5

"These numbers are so severe the Fed has to take dramatic action," said Paul Lally, economist at Citicorp Investment Bank. Along with other economists he expects the central bank to lower the discount rate to 6.5 per cent

It would be the first discount · rate change since February 24, More banks are expected to 1989, when it was raised to 7.0 follow with prime rate cuts but per cent from 6.5....

developing countries."

IBM models

ABU DHABI (J.T.) - Galf Busines Machines (GBM) has announced the availability of the latest IBM personal system (PS/ 2) computers in the Gulf region, just days after they were laun-

level of computing performance and expandability," says GBM General Manager Mustafa Rugibani. "Because of the design flexibility built into these models, PS/2 customers will be able to 'grow' their systems as their computing requirements grow, while

But far more than farm

ambitious trade talks yet held. the so-called Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on

A dispute over farm sub-

on one side and the United States and farm exporters on the other could not agree how far and how fast to cut subsidies protecting their producthe issue next year but see no

guarantee of success. "We all lose big by the failure of a successful result of the Uruguay Round," said top U.S. negotiator Carla Hills.

Much more than farming at

"We were supposed to set new rules for the way the world will develop over the next 20 to 30 years," said Argentina's foreign minister, Domingo Cavallo.

Trade worth \$1 trillion a year, almost one third of all commerce, is not yet covered by GATT, the world trade watchdog. U.S. bankers complain they

have trouble setting up shop in India. Chinese clothing makers want to sell more to the United States. Film-makers complain of counterfeit videos in Taiwan and medicine manufacturers say their recipes are copied in

Brazil. Complaints like those

prompted trading nations to launch the Uruguay Round in 1986. Countries from Algeria to Zimbabwe all hoped to benefit from the results.

Most developing countries wanted cuts in the costly farm programmes of industrialised nations, whose subsidised over-production robbed them of markets, stifled trade and cost the world an estimated \$250 billion a year in lost in-

Poorer countries also wanted a chance to sell more of their goods, especially textiles and products like bananas and flowers, to consumers in rich countries.

Businesses in advanced economies were eager for rules to protect the export of services, which include banking, insurance and even hairdressing and are worth \$678 billion a year.

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GATT rules never covered services, even though they account for 60 per cent of economic output in industrialised countries and 50 per cent in poor nations.

International businesses also wanted guarantees that they would not have to meet unfair demands if they invested in developing countries.

Although most countries appealed for trade liberalisation, the talks reached deadlock over farm subsidies. Negotiators said the setback has wide economic and politic-

al implications. Brazilian Ambassador Rubens Ricupero said exports were indispensable for developing countries going through painful economic adjustment. "If we don't have a fair and open trading system, we will be left in the cold," he

VICTORINOX

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Canada's unemployment jumps, recession takes hold OTTAWA (R) — Canada's nnabout lower interest rates to re-

employment rate rose to its highest level in more than three years in November as manufacturing jobs withered in the face of recession, a government agency reported on Friday.

Statistics Canada said unemployment rose to 9.1 per cent in November from 8.8 per cent in October, continuing a sharp upward trend underway since the Prime Minister Brian Mul-

roney, under attack in the house of commons from opposition parties, pledged to work for lower interest rates to kickstart Canada's stalled economy.

"We are going through a period, along with others, of economic difficulty, we recognise that," Mulroney told parliament. "And we are seeking to bring

energise the economy to make sure we go through another period of impressive economic growth."

After seven years of expansion, the government reported last week that the Canadian economy contracted in the July to September period for the second consecutive quarterly decline — the generally accepted definition of a recession.

Gross domestic product declined at an annualised rate, after taking inflation into account, of 1.0 per cent in the third quarter after a second-quarter decline of 1.2 per cent.

In November there were 1,246,000 unemployed across Canada, up 36,000 from the previous month.

The agency said goodsproducing industries trimmed payrolls because of sharp declines in manufacturing and construction.

"All across this country we see the price Canadians are paying for the economic mismanagement of this government," parliamentary Liberal leader Herb Grey charged. Layoffs in the thousands and a

string of plant closures have been announced in recent weeks in the vehicle industry and other manufacturing sectors. The state-funded Canadian

Broadcasting Corp announced earlier this week it was laying off 1,100 people and closing television stations because of a drop in government subsidies and advertising revenue.

Germany OAPEC to move to Cairo; cancels Ethiopias debt

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) - Germany has cancelled Ethiopia's debt of \$70 million and granted the poor Hom of Africa nation a \$30 million grant, the Ethiopian news agency reported Saturday.

The agency said the debt relief and the grant were announced in Addis Ababa on Friday during a visit by Seigfrieid Lengl, the secretary of state in the German federal ministry of economic cooperation.

The news agency said the debt relief "vividly manifests the commitment and initiative of the govcrament and people of Germany to ease the debt burden of least

West Germany was one of Ethiopia's leading donors before the military ousted the late

hit Gulf

ched in Europe.

"These machines deliver a new protecting their investment."

The new desk-top models, at the top end of the PS/2 range, are the Model 95 XP 486 and the Model 90 XP 486 -

stake in suspended GATT talks BRUSSELS (R) — The col-

drawal.

lapse of four years of negotiations to liberalise the rules of world trade will affect the longterm business of untold millions of people, from medicine men to movie stars, from hairdressers to handkerchief mak-

sidies led the negotiators on Friday to suspend the most Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The European Community

handouts was at stake among the 2,500 delegates from 107 countries, who hope to resolve

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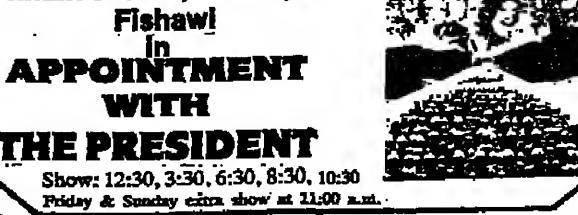
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Cinema

3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

MUOUM Kamai Ai Shinnawi, Ilham Shahin, Farouq Al Fishawi

WITH THE PRESIDENT



Tel: 675571

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Tel: 625155 RAINBOW

UP THE MILITARY

Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

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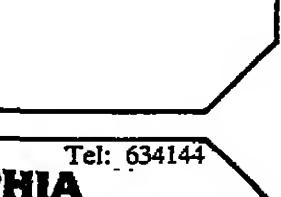
Show; 13:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

PLAZA Nadia Al Jundi & Farouq Al Fishawi

Cinema

in DEATH SQUAD







Tel: 699238

Arabic Show: 12:30, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:45 p.m.



Workers destroy portraits of former Bangladeshi president

DHAKA (R) — Government workers destroyed portraits of former Bangladesh President Hossain Mohammad Ershad Saturday as military officials wondered what to do with the man' himself.

Groups of youths broke the plaques in two fashionable Dhaka promenades named after Ershad. who resigned Tuesday after a bitter opposition campaign to

"We must stamp out vestiges of a ruthless and despotic military ruler," said Mohammad Nasir, a senior official in the Home (In-, Nasir added. terior) Ministry.

found democracy," he said as he with Ershad, who is holed up in trampled a huge portrait of Ershad inside the central secretariat, which reopened Saturday after a caretaker government took power two days ago.

Most of the 15,000 employees of the secretariat returned to work Saturday after five days of turmoil that eventually forced

Only one

spy has

turned

E.German

himself up

BONN (R) — Germany's chief

spycatcher has said only one for-

mer agent for East Germany's

foreign espionage network had

given himself up so far — and he

emerged from the Bonn counter-

intelligence agency's own ranks.

told journalists the only spy to

confess had been Klaus Kuron, a

senior official for the Bonn Secret

Service, and said it would be hard

to uncover others unless the gov-

ernment declared at least a par-

Other spies for the Communist

state, which disappeared on uni-

fication with West Germany on

Oct. 3, are apparently still living

double lives in the hope they will

no! be unmasked, he said. Press

reports number them in the

Bonn considered a controver-

sial law offering a partial amnesty

law this summer but said it would

not have enough time to prepare

the draft before unification.

Boeden said he hoped the new

parliament elected in all-German

some sort of pardon.

polls last Sunday would issue

"We've only had one agent

ziving himself up, and he was a

man in our own firm." Boeden

to work as a "double agent"

About 20 people, several

named by Kuron, have been

arrested since unity. The federal

prosecutar's office announced the

arrest of two more suspected

spies Friday, including one em-

ployee of the counter-intelligence

Other agents, paid off by East

Berlin and promised their files

would never fall into Western

cerned about unemployment if

they come forward than they are

about being uncovered, Boeden

"This is the biggest obstacle ...

they assume nobody from the

HVA will sing. That's a mistake,

they'll all be caught. But it will

take many years and it will keep

tral Intelligence Administration

- ran the espionage network

headed by Markus Wolf, the fugi-

tive spymaster now on the rum

In the Soviet Communist daily

from a German arrest warrant.

Pravda Thursday, Wolf said he

wanted to go home and that his

spy work had to cease after a

conference in Paris last month

About 200 former Stasi em-

playees had contacted his office

to ask about their future if they

handed themselves in, but few

were from the HVA, Boeden

Federal investigators have

Boeden said there were now so

many Stasi files circulating in

Germany that no spy could be

sure he would not be uncovered.

being offered for sale," he said,

admitting his office had paid for

"There is a lot of material

arrested 24 people this year for

espionage, according to Justice

Ministry figures.

some files.

٧z

ÉCT

formally ended the cold war.

The HVA — the Stasi's Cen-

opening up old wounds."

seen to be more con-

service brunch in Hanover.

against the Soviet Union.

tial amnesty.

thousands.

Agency head Gerhard Boeden

Ershad to resign and hand over power to Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmad.

Officials in Dhaka and elsewhere reported that thousands pulled portraits of Ershad from office walls as work resumed.

Nasir said the government had to spend about \$2 million on the portraits after Ershad ordered they be hung in all offices across the country to project him as a popular head of state.

"That is just one minor instance of how he squandered the state fund for his own benefit,"

Military sources said they were in a quandary as to what to do the official residence of the army chief in Dhaka's garrison area.

Ershad had lived in the house since seizing power by toppling an elected government in 1982, obliging army chiefs to settle for more modest quarters.

"It's a catch-22 situation for us," said a military official.

"We cannot allow him to leave the country in view of the public demand for his trial. Neither can he be permitted to stay in the cantonment with so much of a stigma around him." said the official, who asked not to be identified.

Opposition parties have asked Ahmad, now head of a caretaker government, to put Ershad under arrest so he can stand trial for what they describe as perpetrating a reign of terror.

"He must not be allowed to run away from the law." said Begum Khaleda Zia, chief of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party

We are about to restore democracy where accountability is the essence." said Sheikh Hasina, leader of the opposition Awa-"And that accountability must

now start from Ershad. He must face trial." she said.

Youths destroyed a plaque

Saturday in Ershad Square, an expensive, hish green promenade in Dhaka's Tejgaon district close to the president's secretariat, and another in the Baridhara di plomatic enclave named after the former president.

The campaign to oust Ershad intensified after he proclaimed a state of emergency on Nov. 27 and imposed strict press censorship in a last-ditch attempt to suppress opposition.

Ahmad, who will be the country's caretaker president until a parliamentary election is held within three months, said he was reluctant to deal with Ershad because the issue was beyond his authority.

"As far as I am concerned, my job is to restore order and hold elections within three months. he said in an interview with the Voice Of America radio network.

"As for the rest of the matter it is for the next government to take up," Ahmad said.

S. African leaders invited to township battlefields

JOHANNESBURG (R) - The South African Council of Churches is urging political, religious and business leaders to tour black townships in an atempt to stop factional fighting in which more than 90 people have been killed

"We believe that South Africa as a nation cannot allow this type of carnage," said the council's general secretary, Frank Chikane, in a letter sent out Friday inviting 70 people to make the trip to townships near Johannes-

burg on Dec. 12. Among those asked to visit the worst scenes of fighting are Nelson Mandela of the African National Congress and chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom

A long-standing fend between ANC and Inkatha supporters has cost 4,000 lives in four years in Zulu areas of Natal province and spread in August to the Johannesburg region where more than 1,000 people have been killed.

The council, which groups various churches, has also invited leaders of the ANC's radical rival Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) as well as trade unionists and businessmen, including an executive of the giant Anglo American Corporation of South Africa.

Among religious leaders asked to join the tour are Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris. Ambassadors of Western countries and veteran liberal politican Helen Suzman have also been mvited.

Chikane's letter said: "The purpose of the visit is to enable you to independently assess the effects of the violence on the residents and to gain your own insights as to the cause of the

Members of South Africa's white government were not

On Saturday police said they had found the bodies of three people in Bekkersdal, west of Johannesburg, and two in Daveyton, to the east, who had been hacked, stabbed and stoned to death.

gives Tories 8 point lead

BBC poll

LONDON (R) — Britain's ruling Conservatives have taken a strong lead over the opposition Labour Party since Margaret Thatcher quit as prime minister, according to a monthly survey conducted by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

The BBC Newsnight poli of polls, the first since Thatcher resigned on Nov. 22, gave the Conservatives an eight-point lead over Labour, one of their highest ratings since the 1987 general election.

It said support for the Conservatives had risen from 33 per cent in November to 47 per cent while Labour's rating dropped eight points to 39 per cent.

But new Prime Minister John Major failed to top Labour leader Neil Kinnock when voters were asked if they were satisfied with their performances. Kinnock was backed by 35 per

cent of those polled, down from 42 per cent in November, and Major by only 33 per cent. Some newspapers criticised Major Saturday for advising Queen Elizabeth to confer an hereditary title on Thatcher's husband. Denis. The honour will

be passed on to their son, Mark. "In honouring Denis Thatcher with a baronetcy the queen bestowed on Mark Thatcher an hereditary honour he has not earned," Today newspaper said in a front-page article.

The Daily Mirror said: "Mr. Jajor, the man who entered Number Ten (Downing Street) promising to create a classless society, has revived an honour last created in 1964."

The queen awarded Margaret Thatcher the Order of Merit, one of Britzin's highest honours. It elevated her to an exclusive circle of 24 which includes violinist Sir Yehudi Menuhin and Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Georgian Communists split from main party

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party in Georgia, swept from power last month in the republic's first free elections for 70 years. officially split from the main Soviet Communist Party Satur-

Local journalists said a party. congress in the capital Tbilisi hadadopted a new set of rules which did not mention the Soviet Communist Party once. "The Communist: Party of

Georgia is an independent political organisation operating on the basis of its own programme and party rules within the framework of the constitution of Georgia," they quoted the rules as saying.

The party's new leader, Avtandu Margiani, said Friday ne supported demands by Georgia's new nationalist government for independence from Moscow.

But the congress postponed the adoption of a new party programme after delegates disagreed over what the party should be called. Last month's elections brought in a nationalist-dominated parliament which wants full independence for Georgia within five

The Communists had been expected to do well because they too campaigned for independence, but they were hit by growing disaffection with Communist rule at the Moscow level and won only 64 of the 250 seats in parlia-

The decision to break with

Moscow mirrors that of the Communist parties in the three breakaway Baltic republics which chose the same path after nationalists swept to power there in free elections last year. The congress adopted a resolu-

tion saying the party would work towards restoring Georgia's full sovereignty. Many Soviet republics, which want more control over their

resources and affairs, have declared national sovereignty, but only the Baltic states and Georgia so far have said they want full Like the Baltic republics,

Georgia has said it will not sign Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's proposed new union treaty redefining the central government's relations with the 15 republics.

Some delegates at Samrday's congress said the party should remove the word Communist from its title as it no longer reflected the party's aims.

The full party programme will be adopted in a month or so after members have been polled about a. new name and other aspects of the programme.

Margiani, 45, replaced Givi Gumbaridze as Georgian Communist Party leader during Friday's session of the congress. "I see the main goal of the party as pursuing the politics of the parliament. The goals of the

party and parliament should be

the same," he told reporters after: being elected. Gumbaridze had earlier told delegates the party needed new leader to rebuild its power as

an opposition force. Georgia's president, former dissident Zviad Gamsakhurdia has announced a transitional

period for the five years leading to independence. The Georgian Communists did not cut off all links with Moscow. reserving a right to attend central party congress as observers dur-

ing the transition period. After the main Communist parties in the Baltic republics declared independence, small groups of pro-Moscow Communists broke away and formed separate parties.

There were signs Saturday that this process might be repeated in Georgia, where the congress was boycotted by party members from the autonomous areas of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

The independent Lithuanian Communist Party was holding a congress Saturday to decide its future amid speculation it would transform itself into a Social Democratic Party.

Andreotti abruptly adjourned

the meeting and issued a state-

ment saying Gladio was legiti-

mate at the time of its founding.

crowded and the explosion fierce.

Windows in the surrounding area

A police official, contacted by

telephone said the incident was

under investigation and added

that police were "unclear" on the

A Chengdu resident said

motive for the bombing.

were shattered by the blast.

Intruder found in grounds of **Buckingham Palace**

LONDON (R) — An introder discovered in the grounds of Queen Elizabeth's Buckingham Palace residence was charged with being equipped to cause criminal damage, British police said. Derek Smith, 32, an unemployed man arrested earlier in the day, will appear in court Saturday, they said. Security around the royal family was sharply increased after a man, Michael Fagan, broke into the queen's to rel bedroom in 1982. He sat on her buy bed and chatted to her for half an hour before palace staff came to her aid. But intruders have continued to outwit royal security staff. Vandals broke into a tomb at Windsor Castle, west of London this year and a masked mas armed with a hammer and knife was arrested in 1987 in the grounds of Kensington Palace used by the Prince and Princess of Wales when they stay in London.

Arrest warrant out for actor.

LOS ANGELES (R) — An arrest warrant was issued for 19: vear-old U.S. film actor Corev Feldman, who waged a highly publicised campaign against drugs, after a judge was told Feldman had been suspended from a live-in drug programme Feldman, who has appeared in such films as Stand By Me, The Lost Boys and The Goonies, has been arrested twice this year on drug charges and had been ordered to take part in a live-in drug rehabilitation programme. He was arrested for a third time for failing to appear in court on a traffic warrant. A spokeswoman for the Los Angeles district attorney's office said Feldman had been suspended from the drug programme on the grounds he had violated programme rules. Deputy district attorney Peter Cagney said he had been in touch with Feldman's lawyer, and arrangements were being made for the actor to surrender next

Huge buried crater found

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Scien- Linister tists have found a huge buried in me crater on the edge of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula where are and aniv asteroid or comet may have him the earth 65 million years agont elope killing off the dinosaurs, researed incen chers said. They said the 110 110 100 mile-wide (177-kilometre-wide) crater was the largest found of Earth. Scientists have theorised \$\$880 for about a decade that an impact with an extraterrestrial object with caused such catastrophic en sion station said he thought the vironmetal change that 75 per 145 death toll from the bombing cent of life on Earth became would rise because the bus was extinct. There is growing evidence to support that theory. several scientists said at the American Geophysical Union's fall meeting. University of Arizona scientists said they recently discovered the crater buried beneath sediment along the shores of the Yucatan peninsula near the town of Chicxulub, which appears to be the site of such an impact. "It's in the right location," University of Arizona scientist William Boynton told a news conference. He said its geological characteristics also put it at the right age. According to Boynton, the outer-space object would have struck the site while 17 was about 100 metres (330 feet) beneath the ocean's surface?

The land mass later rose.

Brunei bans booze

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN,

Brunei (R) — The Sultanate of Brunei, seeking to adopt more Islamic values, has decided to ban liquor from next year. Government officials have said a nationwide-decree cancelled hornors w sell, serve and process all types of liquor from Jan. 1. Foreign diplomats and non-Muslims would be able to bring in liquor for their own use and for religious purposes, the officials said Ruler and Prime Minister Sultan Hassanal Bolkia said last July a committee had been formed to being the country's largely secular laws in line with Islamic teaching The sultanate on Borneo Island has introduced separate schools nantly Muslim country 230,000. The new government decree said traders given licences before Dec. 1 had month to clear stocks and the licences would become void. processing of alcohol must store and distilleries close with immediate ate effect, it said. The mandal airline, Royal Brunei, stoppe serving liquor some years

TORONTO (R) — The president of Lithuania urged the West Friday to consider giving food aid lic. directly to the Baltic republic if the Soviet Union carries out its threat of another economic

Lithuania asks for direct

aid to stave off hunger

blockade of the region next year. President Vytautas Landsbergis told Toronto's Lithuanian community that the Soviet Union had threatened to stop all essen-

Jan. 1 if it does not sign a unification treaty with Moscow. "We have been told we will no longer be given grain." Landsbergis said. "Please do not let your aid be

Lithuania declared itself an independent nation last March and was immediately faced with a 21/2-month economic blockade by

used as a weapon against us," he

when the Soviet Union said it would begin talks with the repub-

Landsbergis said that since then things had taken an alarming turn and the Soviet Union had threatened violence if Lithuania had not signed an all-union treaty with Moscow. The treaty would confirm the Soviet Union's view that the Baltic states are subordintial goods going into the state on

> Landsbergis said there was no turning away from the independence movement now. "The desire to walk outside

now that the door is half open is overwhelming. Even if there was a storm raging outside the desire would still be overwhelming," he

Landsbergis was in Canada for talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney before flying to meet the Soviet Union. It agreed to a President George Bush this moratorium on independence weekend.

No threat of famine in Moscow — deputy mayor

outy mayor said Saturday the Soviet Union's major cities desperately needed the food aid now flowing from the West but the capital did not face famine. Sergei Stankevich also said the Moscow City Council would create a special commission to protect aid for the capital from the

black market. said. Kuron stunned his superiors. "The food stocks in Moscow in October by revealing he had are enough to guarantee that worked for East Berlin's Ministry there will not be a situation as in of State Security — the hated Ethiopia." Stankevich told a Stasi — for eight years without news conference. "That is why I being even suspected. try to avoid terms like famine, Boeden said Kuron only gave civil war and food riots." himself up because he mistakenly

Stankevich said the Soviet Unthought his Cologne-based Office ion's failing economy was the for the Protection of the Conmain reason for its food crisis. stitution would take up his offer "The reasons for the crisis are

not only corruption and distribution. The first and the main reason is there is not a normal exchange between the agricultural and industrial parts of the country." he said. "The economic mechanisms do not work."

Western diplomats and Soviet journalists say that outdated transport networks, a thriving black market and poor attitudes to work have also hampered distribution of food and consumer goods as winter sets in.

The Communist Party daily Pravda said food aid from abroad has evoked contradictory feelings among Soviet citizens. "We thank the good people

abroad for their unselfish help," wrote commentator Anatoly Kar-"But for some reason people

are not feeling joy in their hearts. It's uncomfortable to feel oneself playing the role of the starving... living in such a rich country but suddenly seeming to be on the verge of catastrophe."

Moscow has already received food totalling more than 200 tonnes from Germany. Italy, the United States, Israel and Switzerland, city officials said, and the volume is increasing.

Stankevich said the city council would establish a commission of volunteers to meet planes loaded with goods and monitor the distribution of aid to the needy, including the elderly, disabled children and poor families.

The daily Moskovskaya Pravda said KGB security police officers deputies from the city council and senior officials would inspect premises where the food aid is

The KGB has also set up a special department to fight economic crime.

"It is controlling the storage and use of imported food as well as the arrival of foreign aid," the

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow's de- Soviet News Agency TASS said. Already, a mass of abuses have come to light: Theft, mismanagement, crimes by those in charge and elements of sabotage," a KGB colonel told the news agency.

Meanwhile Berlin, brushing aside painful memories of a Moscow blockade of the city, has launched an airlift of relief supplies to the Soviet Union. And in a day full of historical irony, Bonn's Defence Ministry

said Friday Moscow had agreed to let German Armed Forces transport food supplies donated by the state of Lower Saxony. A ministry official said the Soviet Union would allow the German Air Force to fly 60 ton-

nes of children's food directly to the Russian city of Ivanovo on Dec. 13 and 19. Moscow has previously refused let the German military set foot on Soviet soil for fear of reawakening memories of the

Nazi invasion in World War II.

Berlin's relief effort involves moving food stockpiles, laid on after the Red Army blockaded West Berlin in 1948-1949, to Soviet citizens who face a narsh winter of shortages.

West Berlin survived the Soviet blockade with supplies flown in by the Western allies in an operation that became known as the Berlin Airlift. A first instalment of Berlin's

aid, 3,000 tonnes of milk powder and medical supplies, was Friday loaded onto Soviet army trucks to be driven to waiting Soviet Air Former West Berlin's stockpile, worth half a billion marks

(\$330 million) and filling 70,000 ! square metres of storage space, contains enough to feed 10 million people for a month, city official Gerhard Erbe said, Lieutenant-Colone! Vitaly

Shelezniak, commander of the 42-truck Soviet convoy, said: "We did not expect things to go so fast and we never expected the Berlin Senate (city government) to give us its reserves. "We will do everything to en-

sure they really reach the needy ;

The city government decided last month to donate the stock. no longer needed in a united Germany, as part of a massive private and official effort to help the Soviet Union which made unification possible.

A city official said it would take eight to 12 weeks to transport the 180,000 tonnes of food and medical supplies to the Soviet Union by air and sea,

Cossiga at centre of storm over Gladio ROME (R) — A political storm Italian newspapers. has erupted in Italy over Presi-

dent Francesco Cossign's reported threat to stand down unless the government confirmed the legitimacy of a secret group set up during the cold war to fight a Warraw Pact invasion. Italian newspapers reported

Saturday that Cossiga sent an ultimatum to Prime Minister Ginlio Andreotti Friday demanding that the government take a clear stand on the legitimacy of the group known as Gladio. "Cossiga threatens to go," the

too circulation La Repubblica said in a headline echoed by all

Political sources said Cossign, 62, was unhappy with a cabinet decision to set up a commission of senior judges to investigate whether Gladio had violated the constitution.

The move irked Cossiga because he had helped to draw up Gladio's formal structure when he was a young junior minister in the early 1950s, they added. The sources said Cossiga had

demanded a clear statement from Andreotti on Gladio's original legitimacy in a letter which reached the prime minister in the

This move narrowly averted a major crisis that would have left Italy without a president. Cossiga's office did not release the letter or disclose the contents

of a talk between Andreotti and a presidential envoy.

The newspapers said Cossiga was ready to stand down temporarily and hand over his largely ceremonial post to the senate president while the judicial commission investigated Gladio. middle of a cabinet meeting.

2 killed in China bomb blast

PEKING (R) — At least two people died and an unkown number were injured when a bomb explosion tore apart a bus Friday in the southern Chinese city of Chengdu, city authorities said Saturday.

The bus blew up as it passed a giant statue of former leader Mao Tsetung overlooking the city's main road. The explosion ripped a gaping hole in the vehicle and threw it onto its side as flames engulfed the wreckage, said an official at the city's Foreign Affairs Office.

many are wounded." said the official contacted by telephone

"It was a bomb but we don't know who the criminal is yet," he

Acts of terrorism are rarely reported in China's officiallycontrolled press. The government made repeated calls for citizens to surrender all weapons last year, after demonstrations for democracy were suppressed in many parts of China.

The scene of Friday's bomb was near city government offices. Students demonstrating for democracy in May and June of

An official at the city's televi-

"We're not sure if it's sabotage aimed at Mao or a bungled attempt to take revenge for last

stands on a tall pedestal set back from the road.

Shuttle's makeshift space observatory working well

"We're having to do it a little more differently than we plan-

the children. Parise said the problems with an automatic telescope aiming device had created a "tedious and

the current mission. "This is not a failure by any

stretch of anybody's imagina-

Earlier astronauts aboard Columbia told U.S. school children in a lesson broadcast from space Friday they were getting an unprecedented view of the universe despite computer problems in their space lab.

sin Professor Art Code. "We do not think a sort of bean-counting method of keeping track of the number of objects observed is the

Parise and three other astronauts took time out from their celestial observations to give a 20-minute astronomy lesson and answer questions from two dozen pre-college students selected to participate because of their scien-

by satellite to classrooms throughout the United States. Payload specialist Sam Durrance explained the crew's mission

and an X-ray telescope that comprise the Astro Observatory. "Looking at the stars or other objects in just visible light is sort of like listening to a piano with only a few working keys. You

The shuttle telescopes can see light that is absorbed by Earth's atmosphere and unseen by hu-

The televised lesson, titled for boys and girls in the predemi-"Assignment: The Stars," was designed to teach students about the electromagnetic spectrum and other basic principles of astro-

It was NASA's first attempt at using a shuttle for live instruction since the shuttle Challenger disas. ter in January 1986 that killed New Hampshire school teacher Christa McAuliffe.

"It has been confirmed that last year drew large crowds in the there are two people dead so far, same area. Rioting broke out "Mao survived unscathed," he but we have no figure yet on how after police violently dispersed added, noting that the statue

HOUSTON (R) — A makeshift observatory aboard the U.S. space shuttle Columbia is working well although it can see only half of what it was designed to observe, astronomers said Satur-

Ground controllers helped the seven-man crew of Columbia. launched Sunday for a 10-day mission after a six-month delay, to point the observatory's four telescopes at such celestial mysteries as quasars, supernovas,

pulsars and black holes. The aiming system for the observatory, called Astro-1, "amounts to a jury-rigged system, but is working," said Jack Jones, head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) mission.

A computer used by astronauts to see where the spacecraft's telescopes were pointing had to be switched off Thursday when a "scent of something bot," filled the flight deck, NASA said. This left the astronauts with little to guide the telescopes other

than voice commands from flight

controllers to the Columbia crew

who manoeuvred the telescopes.

But the new system was work-

ing well enough to allow at least half of the planned targets to be observed, scientists said. "In my opinion on the tally

sheet of the human spirit. Astro-1 is already a resounding success." said Chris Anderson, a professor at the University of Wisconsin and a key player in the observatory's development. "A thrill went up my spine." said Ted Gull, chief scientist of

the project, as he watched the shuttle crew line up the telescopes with a distant star system and start taking scientific data. The astronomers appeared to be closing ranks to praise the Columbia crew after a series of failures crippled the mission's

plans to glimpse more than 250 celestial objects. "I think most of you out there are getting the wrong impression about the mission," said Art Davidsen, another key scientist in

"We've had a lot of setbacks, but success is in hand here," Davidsen said. "We're really

bappy."

ned, but we're doing it and the scientists are getting very excited by the data we're gathering for them," astronaut Ron Parise told

time-consuming" job for the astronauts, who have been pointing the instruments manually since their launch Sunday from the Kennedy Space Centre. "We had a pretty big shopping list," said University of Wiscon-

proper way to assess the success of this mission."

The session was broadcast live

with three ultraviolet telescopes

miss most of the song," Durrance